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(The national voice of Indo-Canadians)

Troops move to Assam

Apr. 2.

Troops moved into India's troubled northeastern Assam state yesterday after a new outbreak of violence in which two people were killed, the Press Trust of India reported.

The agency said the deaths occurred after police opened fire to quell fighting on Monday night between two unidentified groups in the state's Hailakandi subdivision.

PTI said the fighting started during a distribution of salt, but gave no other details. It was not immediately clear whether the fighting was linked to the current anti-Bengali agitation in Assam, where more than 80 people have been illed since last September.

An indefinite curfew has been clamped on parts of the Hailakandi sub-division, with the situation officially described as tense. Troops sent to reinforce the police yesterday marched through the troubled area.

Earlier, two battalions of the para-military Border Security Force were moved to Assam to reinforce two BSF battations already in the troubled state, PTI reported.

The agency reported increased picketing by Assamese students of an oil pipeline installation near the state capital, Gauhati.

The picketing has stopped the flow of crude oil from Assam to other Indian states.

The economic blockade of Assam by supporters of the ruling Congress (Indira) Party in West Bengal spread yesterday to neighboring Bihar state, where workers held up an Assam bound train.

The blockade, which started last Monday, interrupted road and rail traffic, and hundreds of West Bengalis have been arrested for trying to stop goods moving into Assam.

The Congress(I) Party's Youth Wing in West Bengal yesterday called on its members to use restraint in mounting their economic blockade.

Subrata Mukherjee, party leader in West Bengal, said the blockade would continue until he received orders from Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Mrs. Gandhi has appealed against aggravating the situation in Assam, but has not specifically ordered a halt to the blockade.

Stephen in Cabinet

New Delhi (IBS) - Prime Minister Indira Gandhi expanded her Council of Ministers by inducting five more persons - one Union minister and four ministers of State.

C.M. Stephen has been given the portfolio of Communications. The four ministers of State are C.P.N. Singh, Defence, Sitaram Kesari, Parliamentary Affairs, Charanjit Channa, Industry, and Z.R. Ansari, Commerce.

A significant omission, once again, is H.N. Bahuguna who had swung over to Mrs. Gandhi's party shortly before the mid-term Lok Sabha poll. It is now apparent that Mrs. Gandhi is not going to force him out of active politics with, perhaps, an offer of an ambassadorial post in the future. He is tipped for Moscow.

With the latest inductions, the Cabinet strength is now 16, and the number of ministers of State 11.

Stephen, who lost to Atal Behari Vajpayee from the New Delhi constituency during the mid-term poll, was returned from the Gulbarga constituency in a recent by-election.

Quebec woman out of jail

New Delhi - Canadian Marie Andree Leclerc, who has spent 33 months in jail here, was released on bail on Saturday night but her former lover, Charles Sobhraj, remained behind bars, her lawyer said yesterday.

Miss Leclerc, 34, a native of Levis, Que., was freed after $1,250 bail was posted on her behalf by Rev. Alain Picard, a Canadian priest living in India, lawyer Nayaran Ghatate said.

Earlier, $17,500 bail had been put up in four other cases pending against the one-time dental technician. Charges range from travelling on a false passport to drugging, theft and murder.

Indian police consider Miss Leclerc a key member of a gang led by Mr. Sobhraj which allegedly drugged, sometimes fatally, young tourists and stole their cash and belongings. Two books about their exploits were published recently.

Mr. Ghatate said Miss Leclerc was staying with a French-Canadian nun in New Delhi.

COCKROACHES IN IA

New Delhi (IBS) - The Indian Airlines aircraft are infested with cockroaches. Admitting this, the airline journal "Image", quotes engineers as saying that this is due to the fact that they have become immune to the pesticides

Rs. 12 billion deficit in budget

New Delhi (IBS) - The country could be in for a sizeable dose of fresh taxation after the next few weeks in Central effort to pull its own finances out of the deep red. The interim general budget presented in Parliament shows a deficit of about Rs 12,350 million. No new taxes have been announced yet.

The interim budget was announced because the Centre needs more time to prepare the regular budget. The time wanted is for an assessment of "the damage done to the country" during the 33 months of the Janata-Lok Dal rule, Finance Minister R. Venkataraman explained.

According to figures given in the budget, receipts are put at Rs 189,800 million, but expenditure at Rs 202,150 million, leaving a deficit of Rs 12,350 million. All for 1980-81. The revised estimates for 1979-80 put receipts at Rs 166,240 million and expenditure at Rs 193,240 million, leaving a deficit of Rs 27,000 million.

The reasons for the huge 1979-80 deficit is put down to an increase of Rs 2,230 million in defence spending, a shortfall of Rs 1,500 million in corporate tax receipts, a fall of Rs 1,830 million in excise duty (prohibition era), and a loss of Rs 2,600 million in the public sector. Further, an additional expenditure of Rs 3,000 million on import of petroleum products had made matters worse, as also did the delay in getting payment of Rs 2,190 million for the Kudremukh iron ore project.

May polls

New Delhi, Mar. 25 (UNI) - The elections to the nine dissolved State Assemblies which are under President's rule are likely to be held sometime in May depending upon the finalisation and printing of electoral rolls, according to Election Commission sources.

The Chief Election Commission, S.L. Shakdher, has convened a meeting here of the Chief Electoral Officers and officers in charge of the printing of electoral rolls this month to find out how soon electoral rolls could be printed.

The election Commission has fixed March 10 as the last date for the disposal of claims and objections to the draft electoral rolls.

If the revised rolls are finalised and printed well in time and in sufficient numbers, the Commission will have no difficulty in holding the elections some time in May.

The nine States, which are under President's rule and where elections are to be held are Gujarat, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.

The State Assemblies which had non-Congress(I) Governments were dissolved on February 17 at Mrs. Gandhi's instance.

Awards for literary figures

New Delhi, Mar. 28 (UNI) - Twenty-one eminent authors and poets have won the coveted Sahitya Akademi Awards for 1979 for their contribution to the enrichment of the regional languages.

At a function here Sahitya Akademi President Umashankar Joshi presented 19 of the awards to the literateurs, in the case of three posthumous awardees the awards were given to their heirs.

The awards consist of a cheque for Rs 5,000 and an incribed copper plaque.

In addition to these 22 awards, distinguished Hindi writer Jainendra Kumar was conferred the Fellowship of the Sahitya Akademi.

The following are the awardees and the languages in which they have distinguished themselves:

Bhaben Baruah (Assamese); Mahasweta Devi (Bengali); O.P. Sharma 'Sarthi' (Dogri), late Rama Mehta (English, late Jagdish Joshi (Gujarati), late Dhoomil (Hindi); A N Moorthy Rao (Kannada); Marghoob Banihali (Kashmiri); R V Pandit (Konkani) Tantranath Jha (Manipuri); N V Krishna Warrior (Malayalam); M K Binodini Devi (Manipuri); Saratchandra Muktibodh (Marathi); Guman Singh Chamling (Nepali); Kunjabihari Das (Oriya); Jaswant Singh Neki (Punjabi); Chandra Prakash Dewal (Rajasthani); K N Ezhuthachan (Sanskrit); Hari Dilgir (Sindhi); T. Janakiraman (Tamil); P Narayanecharya (Telugu) and Ghulam Rabbani Taban (Urdu).

Son born to Sanjay

New Delhi (IBS) - Maneka Gandhi, wife of Sanjay Gandhi, MP, gave birth to a baby boy in the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences here. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi visited the ward to meet the grandchild, while Sanjay, her son, had barifs (milk sweets) distributed.

Menaka and Sanjay were married about eight years ago, but all this time there was no sign of an issue. When Sanjay went hammer and tongs after birth-control, more often with the use of force, it was rumoured that he was impotent (as distinct from being virile) and an obsession against those who could procreate drove him to enforce sterilisation.

Rumours that Menaka was expecting began to get afloat about a year ago, but were never confirmed. Then came the news she was to deliver in December, which turned out to be false. However, she booked a room in the prestigious and costly AIIMS, complete with air-conditioner and every conceivable facility, and finally delivered a baby boy.

Menaka, before marrying Sanjay, had been a college beauty queen and part-time model. It was then she was crowned beauty queen of her college that Sanjay met her, along with many of his friends, some time in 1972. They married shortly after, taking the nation by surprise at the suddenness of it all.

Oh! Calcutta!!

New Delhi (IBS) - Calcutta over the years has degenerated into the most polluted city in India. It could very well be one of the worst in the world. The National Environmental Engineering Research Institute is continuing to study the problems of that city and make suggestions, but implementation has been nil to date.

The city authorities, while admitting the problem is acute, continues to give priority to power, transport and other schemes, ignoring pollution totally. So the menace is mushrooming to dangerous proportions.

Chronic respiratory troubles are found to be much higher in Calcutta. The air is thick with industrial, automobile and domestic emissions all the year round, and the sultry climate prevailing for most of the year makes it all the worse, since air lies like a heavy blanket over the city, hardly lifting, barely moving.

Pollutants over the city amount to a staggering 670 tonnes a day. Citizens are not only complaining increasingly of lung and throat troubles, but also of recurring headaches, eye irritation, and inexplicable attacks of nausea and vertigo. Over 25 per cent of the student population is reported to be TB hit, according to a recent medical survey.

The major polluting agents traced so far are carbon monoxide, sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, hydro-carbons and suspended "particular matter" which has been identified as "the single largest culprit", contributing nearly 300 tonnes a day to the polluted air.

Nehru awards for scientists

New Delhi, Mar. 31 (UNI) - Five agricultural scientists from different disciplines have been selected by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for outstanding post-graduate research work in 1979-80.

They are: Dr. Baljit Singh and Dr. Manjit Mahal, both of Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, Dr. P. Sen of Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack, Dr. Hari Shankar of Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar and Dr K P Joy, a fisheries scientist.

These scientists will be given a cash award of Rs 5000 each and a citation.

The Hari Om Trust Award for agricultural research for 1978 has been awarded to D.S. Jayaraj, Professor at the agricultural college and research institute at Madurai. The award carries a cash prize of Rs.10,000, besides a citation.

Data bank on skilled manpower

Bombay, Mar. 26 (UNI) - The Kerala Overseas Employment Corporation, a Kerala Government Undertaking making vigorous efforts to meet the manpower needs of developing countries in Asia and Africa, will soon recruit personnel for a television project in Saudi Arabia.

Regional Director of the Corporation C.S. Ahmand Shah said the Corporation had, during two years of its existence, supplied about 2,000 technical and other personnel to various countries including the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Libya, Nigeria, Mozambique, Iraq, Singapore and Malaysia.

About 8,000 personnel of various categories including engineers, doctors, nurses, architects and skilled and unskilled labourers could be supplied through the agency to these countries in the next five years, he said.

The Corporation, he said, had an agreement with Al Murwa, agents of the Bahrain Government for recruitment of technical and other personnel for Government and private sector undertakings in Bahrain, for the next five years.

Mr. Shah said it had built up a Data Bank with information on about 50,000 qualified, tested and screened personnel who could be mobilised within a fortnight.

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African support for foreign policy

Professor V. Subramaniam

The majority of African countries are non-aligned and support India's foreign policy in a general way. There are variations on this general theme; French-speaking African countries can be lukewarm about non-alignment on issues where French interests are threatened and on differences between India and China or in general among Third World countries there is less unanimity among African countries. But in regard to India's refusal to be hustled into condemnation of the Russian presence in Afghanistan and to approve the American holier-than-thow stance, African support was forthcoming in stronger measure than expected almost like a windfall for two main reasons; one connected with the flasco of the Carter-sponsored mission of Muhammad Ali and another with African preoccupation with the impending transfer of power in Zimbabwe. Both have been carefully played down in the Western press which portrays a picture of African shock at the Russian action and African shyness to express support for the U.S.A. The African press itself has been quite unequivocal in its disapproval of U.S. actions on both counts.

It is rather strange that President Carter hit upon the idea of sending the World Boxing Champion Muhammad Ali on a mission to persuade African countries to boycott the Moscow olympics. Ali himself was not briefed even in an elementary way for the mission nor was any sounding made of the willingness of African countries to receive him. The result was predictable. Heads of State and politicians in office refused to see him. Zambia's Kaunda, outraged by the mission, issued a statement against any effort to politicize the olympics. At a press conference in East Africa, Ali was grilled about American interference in the Third World. To his credit, he confessed he knew little about all that and he felt that he had been poorly briefed or even cheated. Worse was to come as he visited Nigeria in mid February. Students of Yaba College of Technology demonstrated against Ali's mission - as a puppet of white Americans. The **Daily Sketch** devoted a full leading article criticizing him almost as a lost hope of the Blacks. The **Nigerian Herald** published a full page article titled "The Nasty Mission of Muhammad Ali". In general, all newspapers were critical of Ali's efforts - and almost called him an 'Uncle Tom'. It must however be said to Ali's credit that at a London press conference, he said with a wry smile that he changed nobody's mind. But Carter's arrogant amateurishness in sending Ali round has helped brighten India's foreign policy image.

At the same time Carter's holier-than-thow attitude (critics have called him a pulpit-bully) in regard to the Russian action has also lost the U.S. A. some possible African support. There is fear and suspicion about Russian intervention in Africa - and leaders like Zambia's Kaunda are certainly not pro-Russian. But the general "treacherous" behaviour of Britain in the process of transferring power in Rhodesia has made African leaders suspicious of all Western intentions. The attitude to China is also somewhat ambivalent as China has edged closer to the U.S.A. as an ally and a client for Western aid for development. And in Francophone Africa, the general attitude would be one of following France's own lukewarm attitude to U.S. call for friends to chip in with support. In Nigeria the attitude is frankly anti-American. While Nigeria's President fobbed off U.S. request for friendly support, the Nigeria-Soviet friendship Association broadcast the Nigerian attitude as one of qualified support for Russia. The press in general treated both U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. as sinning birds of the same feather in the eyes of the Third World. There was also considerable anger expressed at China's secret trade with South Africa in a long article.

All told, African attitude while not pro-Russian is one of irritation with U.S. arm-twisting. In the process India's firm stand for a local or regional solution to a regional problem has received both admiration and support.

Copper in Rajasthan

New Delhi, Mar. 23 (UNI) - Investigations carried out during the field season 1978-79 have revealed copper reserves in the sand-covered alluvial tract of Rajasthan.

A tentative reserve of 0.96 million tonnes of 0.9 per cent copper has been worked out for 1100 M. strike length in the Singhbhum block of the Khetri copper belt, Rajasthan, up to the first level of intersection.

In the adjacent Muradpur block, copper mineralisation assaying 0.5 to 1 per cent has been intersected over 2 M to 5 M. true width in four out of seven bore holes drilled.

In the Chinchrich block of Jhunjhunu District, a reserve of 0.66 million tonnes of copper ore with 0.15 per cent copper has been estimated.

In the Tejwala Block of Sikar District, copper mineralisation, associated with Molybdenum, has been found in two lenses. One, which has a strike length of 500 M. is comparatively rich. The copper values in this block vary from 0.2 per cent to 1.3 per cent.

In the Got Badshahpur Area, Jaipur District, the drilling so far carried out has proved fairly good copper mineralisation.

In the Sindesar Kalan (East) Block of Udaipur District, a tentative estimate of 30 million tonnes of 3 per cent lead plus zinc has been made up to 100 M. depth over a strike length of 2000 M. The ore zone has an average width of 45 M.

In the Wari area, Chittorgarh District, 2.6 million tonnes of copper ore of 1 per cent have been established over 4.8 km. length.

Antics of Ram

New Delhi (IBS) - Political circles in the Capital are fast beginning to frown on the antics of former Janata Party leader Jagjivan Ram and his hither-and-thither waywardness. He "seems to have no ideology - no direction -- no scruples" are only some of the comments heard today.

He played fast and loose with his own party not many weeks back, at first thinking out aloud as to whether he should quit or stay, then announcing he would stay. A few days later he resigned and announced his "firm intention" of forming a new all-India party, possibly to be named Janata (J). Now the political grapevine has it that he may even shelve the idea of forming this new party.

When last reports flashed in, he was sending out tentative (and ambitious) feelers to both the Congress-I (Mrs. Indira Gandhi's party now in power) and the Congress (once presided over by Swaran Singh, now a member of Mrs. Gandhi's bandwagon).

In both parties he seeks executive positions. In the ruling Congress-I he would "settle" for the post of chairman of the Planning Commission, presently occupied by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi herself (and usually occupied by a Prime Minister). What he wants out of the Congress has not been clearly mentioned, but obviously it is no inferior status.

Congress-I leaders are certain that even if Mrs. Gandhi admits him to the party fold, he will not get the Planning Commission's Chairmanship. Deputy Chairmanship may be, but no more, they state.

His own followers who walked out with him from the Janata have, in the majority, threatened to leave him cold should he cross (or double cross) over to the Congress-I. The more vociferous among his followers have told him so, and have handed "carbon copies" of their warning to the daily Press.

Jagjivan Ram, it seems, is in a quandry, and does not know what he really wants. To him it's either sink with the opposition or swim with the ruling party. He's jibbering...he's doddering... he's grasping at straws...are some other acid comments heard from political pundits and leader writers.

In short, the one-time national leader's stock is plummetting sharply. His credibility is almost erased.

Indians return to Uganda

New Delhi (IBS) - Two Indian industrial groups, the Mehtas and the Madhvanis have concluded an agreement to reopen their factories in Uganda. Former President Idi Amin's government had closed these units in 1972.

The agreement was signed by the chairmen of both units with the Uganda Government. In the instance of the Mehtas, the organisation would give 51 per cent of the holdings to the Uganda Government. Starting a sugar factory, steel plant, a tea factory and an electrical cable unit are some plans mooted.

In the second case, the Madhvani outfit will start a sugar factory.

Russia asked to solve the crisis

New Delhi (IBS) - Through the good offices of the Hungarian Foreign Minister who was recently here on a visit, India has sent a message to Moscow asking the Kremlin to speed up some positive action regarding a solution to the volatile situation emanating from its armed presence in Afghanistan. Moscow has been asked to create an opening so that non-aligned countries may step in to ensure a solution.

Three weeks earlier, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrai Gromyko had visited India and tried to justify his country's interveation in Afghanistan.

Cases ag others d

New Delhi, Mar. 31 (UNI) - Special Judge D.C. Aggarwal dropped the criminal case against Mr. R.K. Dhawan and nine others.

The case was dropped on the Central Bureau of Investigation's report that "no prima facie case for prosecution is made out against any of the accused."

R.K. Dhawan, N.K. Singh, Special Assistant to the then Union Commerce Minister, K.L. Dhawan, P.C. Sethi, M.R. Dhawan, Yash Pal Kapoor, MP, Captain Suresh Vasudeva, K.L. Bhatia, K.L. Shroff and Sudhir Sareen were allegedly accused of diverting huge amounts of Congress Party funds and abusing

Opposition

New Delhi (IBS) - Opposition parties which once ruled the country for about 30 months or so have not learnt their lesson as a result of in-fighting and disunity, and continue, even today, to be in disarray.

Non-communist parties, on the other hand, are quite united against the Congress-I of Mrs. Indira Gandhi (Prime Minister), and display a constructive lesson to other parties opposed to Mrs. Gandhi's "authoritarianism" tendencies, particularly the Janata Party which has split twice - once when Charan Singh walked off with the Lok Dal and now with Jagjivan Ram quitting to form a new party, perhaps the Janata (J).

AIR TV autonomy out

New Delhi (IBS) - The Government today firmly ruled out the Lok Sabha demands to convert the national Radio and Doordarshan into statutory corporations.

The objective was to "serve the people who were not presently being served by other media like newspapers and the government would not give up its own responsibility to serve them through the two media.

Vasant Sathe, minister for Information and Broadcasting, said the "press is free to present news in any manner that it wants," but "Air and TV has to reflect real life situations."

Dr. Karan Singh, MP, asked whether by converting Air and Doordarshan into public sector corporations, whether it would not make them more effective and democratic. "We have considered all aspects, and find the scheme which we have mooted is the best," the minister replied.

TV centres are to be set up at Ahmedabad with relay units at Ajmer, Asansol, Cuttack, Kasauli, Madhuri, Panaji, Varanasi, and Vijayawada.

Rising trade

New Delhi (IBS) - Both President Sanjiva Reddy and the new Chinese ambassador of New Delhi Shen Jian recently expressed the hope that India and China would consolidate the grains of the normalisation of relations initiated two years ago.

A concrete symbol of such endeavours is the increasing volume of trade passing between the two countries.

Indian exports to China in the first nine months of 1978-79 touched Rs. 187 million against Rs. 19 million in the previous year, with sugar topping the list with Rs 87 million. A wider variety of goods like iron-ore, chrome ore, wire ropes, steel

Cases against Dhawan, others dropped

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According to the prosecution, R.K. Dhawan had access to the funds of the Congress Party, Rs 99,16,177 of which he invested in eight firms in which he had a personal interest. During investigation by the CBI it came to light, however, that the companies had supplied badges, flags, posters and other propaganda materials to the AICC during the March 1977 election.

Yashpal Kapoor was accused of running a bank account in the name of the Central Campaign Committee of the Congress party and, in concert with Mr. R.K. Dhawan, of withdrawing large sums of money and diverting them to certain bogus firms floated by him.

Regarding the alleged seizure of foreign currency from Mr. Kapoor's house, the notes had been handed over to the enforcement directorate for action, the prosecution said.

According to the first information report, P.C. Sethi had withdrawn nearly thirty million rupees from the bank, which was subsequently falsely shown to have been distributed, but in fact the money was being held by and on behalf of Mr. R.K. Dhawn, Mr. Kapoor and himself.

It was also alleged in the FIR that Rs 3.4 million was siad to have been paid to a non-existent printing press.

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No non-communist party in the country has as yet tried to unite against a common foe -- the Congress-I -- and none has even shown any sign of consolidating itself. Chaos prevails almost everywhere, only to a lesser extent in the Lok Dal which has decided to maintain its identity.

The Janata (what is left after the two splits) is still plagued by the dual membership bug -- whether RSS members should be part of a political party and whether the Jana Sangh faction within the party should continue links with the RSS, a Hindu organisation pledged to preach and teach the Hindu culture. It is on this issue, ostensibly, that Jagjivan Ram walked out on the Janata Party, he being dead against the RSS presence.

The Jana Sangh is also in a quandry -- if it maintains its RSS links the Janata Party may finally disintegrate; if it quits the Janata it cannot possibly attain power on its own. Except for small municipal posts, Jana Sangh members have fared poorly in politics.

One promising sign is that all non-communist opposition parties are willing to have an adjustment in the coming assembly elections. If they remain isolated, it would be to the liking of the Congress-I and even the Lok Dal.

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Wine from mangoes

Lucknow, Mar. 28 (UNI) - Scientists here are trying to brew sweet wine from mangoes and they say the initial results have been "acceptable".

"From what our early experiments indicate, the king of fruits, should make for good wine," said Dr. Krishan Lal Chadha, chief of the Central Mango Research Station here.

After trying nearly ten varieties a microbiologist at this institute had selected some that could be fermented into "a palatable drink".

The varities tried by Dr. Jagdish Hanumant Kulkarni included dasehari, chausa, langra, fajri, swarnrekha, safeda and mallika.

The products were sampled by a panel of tasters, who declared that the "most acceptable drink" was the one made from the fajri, grown mostly in west Bengal and Uttar Pradesh.

The fermentation process - using mango pulp, yeast and acetic acid - took about ten days. The resulting samples contained 12 to 18 per cent alcohol, Dr. Chadha said.

Assam talks continue

New Delhi (IBS) - The broad based talks between the Union Government and leaders of the movement against foreign nationals in Assam has again ended in a stalemate.

Home Minister Zail Singh and representatives of the All-Assam Students Union and the All-Assam Gana Sangram Parishad stuck to their known positions on the issue of the cut off point and department of foreigners across the border.

While the Centre insists that the 1971 list should be the cut-off point, to determine who is a foreign national, the movement wants 1951 to be the relevant year for identification of foreigners.

Leaders of the movement feel that there is some hope for redemption with the Government taking a "conciliatory" attitude.

Who discovered Australia?

Bombay, Mar. 31 (UNI) - Who discovered Australia? James Cook in 1770 or some Tamilians?

According to Capt. U. Shankar Rao, Honorary Curator of the National Maritime Museum here, it was perhaps discovered by Tamilians.

Capt. Rao told newsmen that the discovery of an Indian wreck "Mohabinbaksh" and a bell with Tamil inscription in New Zealand dating back to 1836 lends credence to this belief. "Knowing as we do of the early maritime activities of the Tamils, it is possible they discovered Australia long before Captain Cook," he added.

The bell is now exhibited at the Dominican Museum in New Zealand. A photograph of the bell is on display at an exhibition which opened here.

Rising trade with China

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Indian exports to China in the first nine months of 1978-79 touched Rs. 187 million against Rs. 19 million in the previous year, with sugar topping the list with Rs 87 million. A wider variety of goods like iron-ore, chrome ore, wire ropes, steel tubes and tobacco has been added to the list of exports.

India's imports from China have consisted of non-ferrous metals, chemicals, textile yarn and artificial resins.

Most take English exams

New Delhi, Mar. 22 (UNI) - The Minister of State for Home Affairs, P. Venkatasubbiah, told the Lok Sabha that 80 per cent of the 8,000 odd candidates opted to write the Union Public Services Examinations in English last year.

Ending the Afghan crisis

New Delhi (Reuter) - India and the Palestine Liberation Organization agreed yesterday that the Afghan crisis should be solved by political and diplomatic means, an Indian Government spokesman said.

He was speaking to reporters after the first round of talks between Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and PLO leader Yasser Arafat who arrived yesterday for a 48-hour visit to India.

The spokesman said Mr. Arafat had described India's response to the Soviet Union's intervention in Afghanistan as "balanced, constructive and measured." Both leaders had warned against any military confrontation over the issue, he said.

India is treating Mr. Arafat as a head of government in keeping with its decision this week to grant full diplomatic status to the PLO mission in New Delhi.

Mrs Gandhi has criticized the Soviet presence in Afghanistan but has stopped short of outright denunciation of Moscow's intervention in support of the pro-Communist Government of President Babrak Karmal.

Indian officials have denied repeatedly reports that her Government was trying to organize a regional conference to discuss the crisis.

Mr. Arafat on Thursday was named as a possible mediator in the Afghan crisis by a leftist Beirut newspaper which reported that the Kabul Government had asked him to mediate with Iran over its support for Moslem rebels fighting President Karmal.

Informed sources said the PLO regarded India's decision to grant it full diplomatic status as a major breakthrough in its campaign for international recognition.

India has been stressing its support for PLO demands for a Palestinian homeland, and this week the Government called for full PLO participation in the talks on Palestinian autonomy.

Crimes against women

New Delhi (IBS) - All over the country, says an editorial in a mass circulation English daily, crimes against women are mounting while the government remains a passive onlooker, offering no sympathy, no protection. The crimes range from goldchain snatching to rape and murder.

In Delhi alone some 200 women die each year unnaturally - either knifed, strangled or burnt alive. Most of them are "done in" by husbands and in-laws for their 'crime' of bringing insufficient dowry for greedy husbands at time of marriage. Such dowry deaths are growing menacingly in Delhi, Punjab, Haryana and Gujarat. The phenomenon is hardly known in Bengal, South India, and West India.

While parents of dying women are becoming more and more vociferous and active in bitter and agonised protest, it is also true that such deaths are growing in number regardless. Why? Simply because society soon forgets each death reported in the papers and the government -- Janata or Congress-I -- turns a blind eye toward them. Radio and TV, controlled by government, are silent at this category of crime.

As for rape, even members of the so-called police force grab their share of easy flesh. Cases of policemen raping women at the first opportunity have been reported from Patiala, Hyderabad, Bhongeer and other places. Women have been locked away in rented rooms and raped daily by policemen until something gives.

In Delhi, thousands of women recently marched in protest against such crimes. They will march They marched again on March 8, when International Women's Day became 70 years old.

Eve-teaser problem

New Delhi (IBS) - With the eve teasing problem ever on the increase, and with gangs of hoodlums prowling in packs, thus preventing proper intervension by even chivalerous males in DTC buses, parks and even in shopping complexes, women have been urged more and more to take to the martial arts, including judo, karate and so on to defend themselves against the antagonists.

However, women in general, who prefer to avoid physical contact of this form are suggesting some sort of small tranqualiser gun which the female could keep in her purse and "shoot" the oogling male if he tends to misbehave.

The move, though interesting, and is apparently being followed up by experts, does not, however, provide much promise, for then some sort of license for its sale along with other formalities would create their own set of complications.

Preparation for space flight

New Delhi, Mar. 22 (UNI) - India has trained a panel of some ten Air Force officers for possible selection as cosmonauts in the proposed joint Indo-Soviet space ventures.

Sources say that although a go-ahead from the Government is yet to come, the officers had been picked at the instance of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) which had been preparing to send an Indian into space as part of its normal development plans. "It has to happen sooner or later, so it might as well be now," they said.

The officers have been given intensive training at the Institute of Aviation, Medicine, Bangalore, the fourth Institute of its kind in the world and the only one in Asia. The Institute is run by the Indian Air Force.

Kerala's urban poor

New Delhi, Mar. 31 (UNI) - Kerala has the maximum number of urban poor with 52.69 per cent of its urban population living below the poverty line.

It is followed by Tamil Nadu with 52.22 per cent.

Orissa has the largest number of rural poor with 71.01 per cent living below the poverty line followed by Tamil Nadu where 62.98 per cent of the people in villages live in similar circumstances.

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Phone: 235-2554

Second Class Mail, Registration Number: 1698"

EDITOR: Mrs. T.J. Samuel

REPRESENTATIVES:

TORONTO: Manjula Das [Paraket] 533-7723

NEW DELHI: GEORGE MATHEW

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APATHY

Some days ago a former Attorney General of Ontario submitted a report on height restrictions for Metro Toronto police force. As some readers of these columns are aware, the Toronto Police Commission has prescribed certain height restrictions on entrants to the police force. The prescribed height is considered to be not common for people from Asia and by virtue of that rule, Asians are practically barred from Toronto police force.

As is well known, in Toronto there have been problems of communication between the Toronto police and the Asians and one way to improve such communication and establish a better liaison between the police and the Asians is to have more policemen (and women too) recruited from the Asians. In a city where race problems have been of some importance in recent years, better liaison between the police and the Asians can be mutually beneficial.

In spite of all these, the report points out that surprisingly, not even a single Asian organization in Toronto came forward to submit a brief to the author of the report. Why? Did no Asian organization know about the preparation of the report? Did they think it is futile to spend any time in making such an input?

Probably the real answer is: Apathy - pure and simple. Such an attitude on the part of Indian organizations and individuals who claim to be educated and well-to-do, means future trouble for all Indo-Canadians. It is surprising even an organization such as NACOI, deliberately created to look after such aspects of interest to Indo-Canadians, failed to act in this respect.

It is apathy that left the Indians in slavery for a long time. It is apathy that is to some degree responsible for the poverty, corruption and other problems in India. One would expect that immigrants from India did not share this weakness with the rest. If so, they would not have been here. However, after being here, many cannot see beyond their noses! Many fail to recognize their long term interests for the sake of short term goals of money, power, prestige and pleasure! What a disappointment!

LION SAFARI PARK IN KERALA

Trivandrum, Mar. 31 (UNI) - Kerala is worried by a surfeit of lions in its zoos and lack of accommodation for them.

Within the past four years, the lion population in the Trivandrum zoo went up to twelve from four. The breeding in captivity was more impressive in the other zoo in the state, Trichur, where the present count is 16, making a total of 28.

Because of paucity of accommodation the forest department has now proposed to set up a lion safari park at the Neyyar dam site.

Conservator of forests N M Pillai said the ground work for the park at Neyyar had been completed. Work was in progress on laying a protective fence around the park, which would extend to five kilometres.

The scheme, taken up as part of the Western Ghat Development Project, would cost Rs 1.4 million.

ARDH KUMBH BEGINS

Hardwar, Mar. 31 (UNI) - Thousands of devotees took a dip in the holy Ganga on Amavasya here March 16 heralding the opening of the Ardh Kumbh Mela.

The mela will last till April 30, which is the most auspicious day of the Ardh Kumbh.

There is no rush of pilgrims here yet.

More than fifty "akharas" of sadhus and religious organisations have reached here for this grand festival.

Kumbh Mela comes every twelve years and the Ardh (half) Kumbh Mela is celebrated six-yearly though with less fervour than the full mela.

Letters

Lack of self-respect

Your editorial of March 3, 1980 bemoaning the lack of leadership of Indo-Canadians in fighting ethnic wrongs, struck a responsive chord within me.

After a total of 30 years in Europe and North America this amateur pscho-analyst feels that some of our failings are largely attributable to some complex or other, or even lack of self-respect.

For instance, how many times have Indians passing me in the streets tried to avoid my smiling eyes. Although puzzled and disconcerted at first, it later occurred to me that perhaps they were trying to get away from something that I reminded them of.

Again, I have found my compatriots from India ignoring palpable defamation of their ex-country in Canada. Why? Because they want to put a distance between themselves and their previous identity, I don't know.

Apropos your reference to our excessive propensity for in-fighting? Some of it could be attributed perhaps to a more exuberant nature, but I suspect that part of it is also due to a desire to feel important at least amongst our own kind, to compensate for maybe a sub-conscious inferiority complex vis-a-vis the Western society we are trying to embrace. Sort of becoming petty "Netajis" in our little backyard to assuage our souls? May be there is something to this theory when one remembers the beautiful harmony and esprit de corps of every Englishman of old Imperial India. These lordlings felt so superior that they had few hang-ups...each a "Netaji unto himself" as they surveyed the "lesser breed"...with little or no in-fighting.

At this point I'd like to add that there has been a significant improvement in our attitudes in recent years. Could be that we have gained greater confidence as we settled down, or could be fears of gathering racism are driving us together against a common danger. Could be...

Thank you, Editor, for always using the term "Indo-Canadian", eschewing that degrading misnomer of "East Indians" for the scions of the second largest nation in the world with a great history. The early Indian settlers in Canada on the west coast were treated shabbily and with contempt as belonging to a conquered colony. Ergo, and d..d designation was good enough for them, eh? Today, "East Indian" is supplemented by "Paki", another contempt-cum-hate designation.

You dare not call a Negro today a "Nigger", a historic term of derision. Yet the vast majority of us not only accept the "East Indian" nomenclature, but even insult ourselves by calling ourselves by that "slave" name!

This is not a small matter please. The epithet "East Indian" immediately conjures up in the Canadian one of the poorest of ethnic images. This fact alone should in itself drive us to insist on a name change to wipe the slate clean. Recently, we in Vancouver have had press headlines? "East Indian taxicab drivers picket...", as if we were some ruddy foreigners and play into the hands of the ever-ready racists lurking around. Now, how much better would it have been if headlined, "Indo-CANADIAN taxicab drivers picket..."

Before we assume "leadership role", let's first get this nomenclature business straightened out. I would earnestly beg each reader to fight back every time somebody, usually innocently, uses that derogatory term, whether in the press, TV, Government publications, or in conversation, by insisting politely but firmly, "I am a Canadian who is an Indo-Canadian ethnically, period". Ditto, if the media are unfair to India --a torrent of letters help.

Homi M. Enghreee
Vancouver, B.C.

Travelogues

I have been reading the series of articles written by Dr. A.M. Mathai in your paper in its recent issues. These articles reminded me of the travelogues I used to read in popular Indian periodicals. Whenever an Indian citizen travelled outside India, he had to write a travel-diary eulogising the places he saw, the people he met, and thus implying the importance of the writer. Such articles used to be accompanied by pictures wherein the writer was predominantly displayed amidst 'foreign' places and 'foreign' leaders (and any Tom, Dick and Harry with a suit and tie was a foreign leader!).

Now, it appears that I have to read the travelogues in reverse (this is the age of reverse discrimination, affirmative action, etc.) Whenever Indo-foreign dignitaries of the type of Dr. Mathai visit their homeland they have to write articles disparaging their 'papas and mamas'. What seems to be lacking is only the pictures. Wherein the writer 'visits a burnt out bus', riot-ridden college campus, etc.

As for Dr. Mathai, it appears that wherever he goes in his 'native Kerala', V.I.Ps like principals, Board members, police officers, and managers seem to be emptying their frustrations for Dr. Mathai to see, swallow and digest and regurgitate in his learned articles on his return to his present homeland.

Warning against talent shortage

New Delhi, Mar. 23 (UNI) - Dr. Raja Ramanna, Scientific Advisor to the Defence Ministry, fears a serious shortage of scientists in the country in about fifteen years unless the rush of talent towards subjects other than science is checked.

In an interview with UNI, Dr. Ramanna described the trend in the country's colleges and research institutions as "internal brain drain".

This "serious situation", he said, was due to a lack of adequate job opportunities for scientists in the country and the tendency on the part of industry to import technical know-how at the cost of Indian scientists.

Asked if he would like indiscriminate import of technology curbed, Dr. Ramanna said: "By changing the present import policy, we can hope to bring about change in the structure of education."

He regretted that the standard of education even at the Ph.D level had deteriorated. Educational institutions had become "factories" for producing more and more graduates.

Dr. Ramanna pointed out that a large number of students preferred banking and commerce as there were not enough openings for science graduates. Parents also encouraged their children to take up subjects which would procure them jobs in commercial organisations and banks.

As a result, seats for higher studies in science subjects remained unfilled, he said.

On brain drain, Dr. Ramanna said there were already too many scientists in the coudntry and he did not think it necessary to induce Indian scientists abroad to come back. Those who had left had done so probably because they did not find suitable jobs or research opportunities within the country.

He said those who wanted to return home were welcome, but they should not expect "foreign situations" at home. "They should be ready to fit themselves into things here," he added.

Dr. Ramanna recalled an observation once made by Dr C.V. Raman, "the problem is not of brain drain, but drain brain". The country had a large number of scientists he explained, but very few were really talented.

Dr. Ramanna said enough progress had not been made in involving industry in the development of major defence systems and sub-systems. The department of defence supplies had some years ago initiated the process of involving private entrepreneurs in defence supply and production efforts. But no serious efforts were made subsequently to associate the industry in any significant manner with the development of defence systems.

He, however, said that the efforts were confined to areas in which production capabilities existed in the country. He would like the industry to build up research and development capabilities and infrastructure in sophisticated areas.

Dr. Ramanna said the government was offering encouragement to public and private sector industries through liberal subsidies and tax incentives to set up research and development establishments.

He acknowledged that the private sector had in recent years made some progress in promoting R and D which was essential for developing new products, processes and services.

No threat of N-disaster

New Delhi (IBS) - The Atomic Energy Department (DAE) has denied that there had been any threat of an N-disaster at Tarapur due to minor leaks in one of the reactor units.

Referring to a news agency report, the DAE claimed that minor leaks were noticed in the bypass links of recirculation loops during the recent annual shut down.

India tops in tea

New Delhi (IBS) - India has regained her position as the leading exporter of tea to the UK, which imported 53.6 per cent of her tea from this country last year.

India had lost her position to Kenya the year before, when that country exported 46.38 million kilos, against India's 33.3 million kilos. China, Sri Lanka and Kenya have also improved their rating of tea export to UK.

Democra... Sikh soc...

Jagpal S. Tiwana

All over the world Baisakhi is celebrated by the Sikhs as the birthday of the Khalsa. It was on this day that Guru Gobind Singh, the tenth Guru of the Sikhs founded a new social order whose members, forgetting their caste distinctions, would act as brothers in the faith. Although his predecessors had also raised their voices against the caste system, it was Guru Gobind Singh, who first sought to break the discriminatory barriers in a more practical and disciplined way.

Guru Nanak, the founder of the Sikh faith, refused to recognize the caste divisions which created such disparities in society. In one of his famous hymns he says:

"Worthless is caste, and worthless is an exalted name
For all mankind there is but a single refuge." AG,P.83.

Guru Nanak instituted **Sangat** and **Pangat** and **Langar** (mixed congregations and mixed community dining) so that people of all castes could sit and eat together and forget their high or low status. In this context, Dr. McLeod emphasises "There can be little doubt that the institution (of Langar) was developed as a deliberate attack on caste distinctions..." "Guru Nanak started the tradition of addressing his followers as Bhai (brothers) as for example, Bhai Mardana, Bhai Lehna and later Bhai Gurdas.

The third Guru Amar Das was also quite vocal against the caste system. He declared:

"The Hindu say there are four castes.
But they all spring from one seed." AG, P. 128.

The fourth Guru Ram Das exhorted his followers to forget caste and remember that the only true nobility is in holiness:

"There are four castes and four traditional stages in the holy life.
But he who meditates on God he it is who is supreme". AG,p.861.

Amongst the hymns incorporated in the **Adi Granth** by the fifth Guru, Arjan Dev, were many not only by Muslims but also by the lowest of the low of both Muslim and Hindu society. They included compositions by Sadhna a Muslim butcher, Kabir a weaver, Ravidas, a Chamar and Sain, a barber.

The sixth Guru Hargobind put the Khatris of his own high caste under the authority of lower caste Jats. The Persian author of **Dabistanl-Mazaheb,** visited Kiratpur in the forties of the seventeenth century and noted that, although the Gurus had been Khatris, "they have made the Khatris subservient to the Jatts, who are the lowest among the Vaishas. Thus most of the great Masands of the Gurus are Jatts"

It was, however, Guru Gobind Singh who brought the campaign against caste distinctions to a grand finale. On March 30, 1699 at Anandpur Sahib, on Baisakhi day, he founded a new order of the Khalsa, for members who would abjure their castes and would be all equal as "children" of the Guru. The first five converts known as the Five Payaras in Sikh history were all from different castes. Only Daya Ram, a Khatri, was of high caste, the others were, Dharam Das, a Jat, Mukham Chand, a laundryman, Sahib Chand, a barber, and Himmat Rai, a water-carrier.

The new converts were given a distinctive uniform. Henceforward, as baptised members of the Khalsa, they had to wear five emblems. The names of the five

Democratisation of Sikh society

Jagpal S. Tiwana

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The new converts were given a distinctive uniform. Henceforward, as baptised members of the Khalsa, they had to wear five emblems, all beginning with letter K, are: Kes (uncut hair), Kangha (a comb), Kach (a pair of breeches), Kara (a steel bracelet) and Kirpan (a Sabre).

The new order of the Khalsa with its five distinctive symbols appealed immensely to the Punjabi peasantry who had inherited from their early stage an egalitarian social structure, to which both Hiuen Tsang and **Chachamama** bear testimony. Prof. Habib pertinently observes in this context, "...Sikhism, which rejected in theory the earlier system of caste and whose Gurus in practice raised Jatts to the highest positions without hesitation, could not fail but to win over and command the loyalty of large sections from amongst the Jatts..." Dr. McLeod goes to the extent of associating the five symbols of the Khalsa with the Jat culture. "There can be no doubt," asserts Mcleod unambigously, "that the Five Ks reflect the complex of Jat cultural patterns..."

The egalitarian emphasis in the teaching of the Sikh Gurus considerably influenced the subsequent course of Sikh history. The institutions of **Sangat, Pangat and Guru Ka Langar** had the levelling and democratising effect upon the Sikhs." The organising of Dal Khalsa and the republican nature of the Sikh Misals during the eighteenth century," remarks Dr. Ganda Singh, "also had their birth in the **Sangats**". By merging his entity in the **Sangat**, the tenth Guru made **Sangat** a sovereign body. The Sangat has occasionally asserted its authority over errant Sikh leaders. Even powerful men like Maharaja Ranjit Singh or the illustrious Master Tara Singh and recently the Akali Dal chief, Jagdev Singh Talwandi could not escape the penalties for their sacriligious acts.

However, under Ranjit Singh and in the second half of the nineteenth century Sikh society started to show signs of degeneration. Old Hindu practices began to creep into the Sikh society. To stem this tide, the Singh Sabha Movement came into existence (1873). It reclaimed Sikhism from a state of ossification and inertia and inspired what Prof. Harbans Singh calls a "Sikh Renaissance".

A study of the census reports from 1881 to 1921 shows that Sikh society regained the egalitarian appeal which it had lost in the mid-nineteenth century. Between 1901 and 1911, the number of Sikhs had increased by 37 per cent although the number of Hindus increased by only 15 per cent and Muslims remained almost unaltered.

The greatest beneficiaries of the Singh Sabha Movement were the Chura and Chamar outcastes. According to Marenco, 80 per cent of the Chuhra Sikhs in 1911 dropped their traditional menial persuits and turned to agriculture, the army or labor in industry. Although the Jat Sikhs retained their numerical superiority (66 per cent), by 1921, the Chamar Sikhs (5.9 per cent) had become the second largest group among the Sikhs, and had superseded the Tarkhan Sikhs (5 per cent) who had been number two in 1881.

The Gurdwara Reform Movement of the early twenties continued the momentum and further strengthened the democratic and the egalitarian tendencies in Sikh society. The Shiromani Gurdwara Prabhandak Committee (1920) which was legally recognized in 1925 to look after the management of historic Sikh shrines, is a democratic body in constitution. 140 of its 160 members are elected directly by the Sikh populace quinquennially. Of the remaining 20 members, 15 are nominated by the S.G.P.C. and 5 sit ex-officio. Thus, it will be seen that the Sikhs manager their religious affairs in a truly democratic way.

It is, however, not correct to claim that Sikh society is a completely casteless society. Sikhs still marry within their castes and use sub-castes with their names. But the democratic practices and institutions initiated by the Sikh Gurus have played a great role in bringing about a transformation in Sikh society. The Khatri, Jat, Tarkhan and Kalal castes are now more or less equal in status in the Sikh hierarchy. The most outstanding leader of the Gurdwara Reform Movement was Kharak Singh, a Kalal Sikh. In the new Indian Government of Indira Gandhi, the Sikhs are represented by Zial Singh, former chief minister of the Punjab, who is a Tarkhan Sikh. The Chuhra and Chamar Sikhs have also shown a noticeable upward mobility in their status as compared to the Hindu outcastes. Indeed, it is clear that the message of the tenth Guru on Baisakhi day in 1699 has exercised a profound influence on the whole subsequent evolution of Sikh society.

Clarity on nuclear policy

New Delhi (IBS) - The clouds have at last lighted over India's nuclear policy.

Mrs. Gandhi's statement on March 14 in the Rajya Sabha removes unnecessary confusion and outlines the Government's stand with refreshing clarity.

While she has reaffirmed the policy of using nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes, she has said that, far from being given up, peaceful nuclear explosions would be carried out 'in national interest."

This should end the doubts which former Prime Minister Morarji Desai's contradictory statements had created. In a speech to the UN General Assembly's Special Session on disarmament, Desai had forsworn even peaceful nuclear explosions and had gone to the extent of questioning both the necessity and the wisdom of the Pokhran test in 1974.

He had later changed his position somewhat. He had told Parliament, for instance, that peaceful nuclear explosions if found necessary, would be carried out in consultation with "others". He never clarified who these others were.

At one stage Desai had even tried to draw a distinction between a nuclear explosion and a nuclear blast.

Prime Minister Gandhi has done well to reiterate that while the commitment to the peaceful uses of atomic energy remains unchanged, national interests would determine whether or not the research in this vital field should cover nuclear explosions too. Mrs. Gandhi also did well to underline the need to keep abreast of the latest developments in nuclear technology.

OPTIONS OPEN

Her statement should also clear the lingering doubts over the political will needed to explore fully the options open to the country, especially in the context of the increasing dependence on nuclear powers, to keep its atomic plants and research stations going.

To what extent such reliance on other countries can throw India's nuclear programme out of gear is clear from the difficulties experienced in running the Tarapur Atomic Power Station, near Bombay, because of the fitful supplies of fuel from the United States.

The recent assertion by the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, H N. Sethna, that Tarapur would be kept going even if US supplies stop, would have inspired greater confidence had there been some evidence of research undertaken to develop an alternative fuel cycle.

The Morarji Government did the right thing in refusing to submit to any international inspection of the country's nuclear installations, but it did not pay enough attention to the imperative need to develop self-reliance by fabricating an alternative fuel at home. On the other hand, to the dismay of his own party leaders, Desai ruled out even peaceful nuclear explosions on the plea that the technology developed in the process could be converted to non-peaceful uses.

NEIGHBOURS OF INDIA

Mrs. Gandhi has endorsed a suggestion to have an in-depth and continuing study of the scope of nuclear research going on in the neighbouring countries of Pakistan and China.

Despite President Zia-ul-Haq's assurances to the contrary, Pakistan may join the nuclear weapons club sooner than later. Apart from the plant for the separation of plutonium from spent reactor fuel, Pakistan is also setting up a uranium enrichment plant for deriving weapon-grade material, both of which are unnecessary for its nuclear power programme.

Lagging far behind China in this respect, it may take India a decade to acquire nuclear weapons if the effort is made now.

Even if nuclear arms are ruled out at the moment, foreclosing any research in the matter of nuclear weapons capability for a future contigency would only be placing the country at a grave disadvantage vis-a-vis some of its neighbours. In the light of the recent developments in the region, India's defence requirements call for a fresh look at this aspect of nuclear policy.

That calls for a great effort of planning, investment and political will. To begin with, the morale of the atomic energy establishment, shattered during the Janata rule, has to be restored. Then it has to be given a time-table and the necessary resources. Moreover, some hard decisions will have to be taken soon in order to keep Tarapur going if the US decides not to live up to its contractual obligation to supply enriched uranium.

Indira's art of cabinet making

New Delhi (IBS) - Here is the true, unvarnished story of how Mrs. Gandhi appoints her cabinet ministers.

Mrs. Gandhi caught not only newsmen unaware in undertaking her ministerial expansion, but also many of the new entrants to the Council of Ministers.

The Prime Minister finalised the names of her new colleagues only around 10:30 am. She instructed her staff to immediately contact the persons concerned and asked them to hurry for the swearing-in at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on the same day at 11 a.m.

Simultaneously, a copy of the list was rushed to the President for his approval.

The new entrants were wrung up and told that they had been included in the Council of Ministers and that they should proceed to the Rashtrapati Bhavan immediately for being sworn-in. They did not even know their portfolios.

One of the new Ministers to be was summoned to Mrs. Gandhi's residence and on reaching there at 10:45 am. was asked to rush for the swearing-in.

The Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Bhishma Narain Singh, who was holding additional charge of the Ministry of Communications, was told by a member of the personal staff around that time that the Communications portfolio was being taken away from him and was being given to C.M. Stephen, a new Minister.

Sources close to Mrs. Gandhi said that so much secrecy was resorted to so as to ward off pressures from other aspirants. Once the names were known in advance, she felt she would be subjected to pressure from other claimants.

The Prime Minister has deliberately undertook only a mini-expansion deferring a full-fledged reconstitution of her ministry till after the State assembly polls are over in May-June.

This would enable her to shift as many persons as possible to responsible positions in the States depending on the outcome of the polls.

Persecution of Harijans

New Delhi, Mar. 31 (UNI) Unlawful eviction of a Harijan or a tribal from land or house in his possession should be made a cognizable offence, the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has recommended.

In its report for 1978-79, the commission headed by Mr. Bhola Paswan Shastri, MP suggests that collective punitive fines be imposed in areas where the scheduled castes and tribes people are subjected to continuous atrocities.

U.S and nuclear program

Baroda, Mar. 31 (UNI) - The Tarapur Nuclear Power Station will not be shut down even if the United States does not honour its commitment to supply nuclear fuel, Atomic Energy Commission Chairman H N Sethna has asserted.

"Our efforts in the past years towards self-reliance have given us the confidence to rise to such challenges," Dr. Sethna said hoping that the U S would honour its obligations.

Despite several modifications to ease operation and maintenance of the plant - the only station which requires enriched uranium as its fuel - its power output had been fluctuating thanks to the uncertainties in U.S. fuel supplies. But in no case would the plant be shut down, he said.

POET'S CORNER

PRIMORDIAL PAIN TO PARAMATAMA

The root cause of the Primordial Becoming;
Which was felt and pondered over by
Krishna and Christ, and equally by
Moses and Mohammed;

Which was epitomized by
Valmiki and Vyasa, and
devotionalized by
Paul and Kalidasa;

Which was mathematically classified by
Patanjali and Pythagoras, and
Psychologically investigated by
Jung and Yajnavalka;

Which was discussed and debated by
Aristotle and Aurbindo, and
Stylized and accepted by
Socrates and Sankra;

Which was philosophized and commented upon by
Tolstoy and Tagore; and
Elaborately painted by
Goya and Van Gogh;

Which was insensitively induced by
Herod and Hiriyakshps, and
Cruely produced by
Hitler and Himmler, Hideki and Hiroto;

Which was heroically wrought by
Alexander and Arjuna, and
Peacefully fought by
Gandhi and Gautama;

Remained as elusive as
When the Great Cosmic Bang
Woke MAN up and
Produced the Primordial Pang;

Not knowing the Source
He went into eternal remorse
Whether he was Atama or Adama
Or someone as Brahma or Abrahma;

Unable to behold the cause or the effect
He ran awild to determine the defect
In the nature of things
Or whatever out there that sings;

The Primemover of the atom into ahu
The Ultimate Controller as Paramatam and Paramanu
was it all chanceousness
Or the result of his own consciousness;

Worship and Prastish, Prayer and Prarthana
Divine wisdom or searchful vidyana
Intimate contact with Rehman
Or intuitive knowledge of Brahman;

Acceptance by objective summation
Resistance by Neti-Neti negation
Fumbled the pain of separation
In the voice of Amen and Aum
Or the Primordial utterance of Soma

Shiv Chopra.

A TEAR DROP

Inside of my heart sleeps a tear drop.
A single tear drop.
My tear drop dreams in its sleep.
I fear its awaking moment.
It dreams of happiness.
It sheds not tears of lonliness.

I am searching...
What for?
Don't I have all that I needed and wanted?
Before I met you...
Twelve years ago.

Am amongst a thousand men.
I smile. I laugh. I share their jokes.
They say they need me.
My smile.

No one knows of my secret tear drop.
Asleep.
It is fast asleep as Little Black Bobtail
was in her basket and blanket of warm love.

It is unknown.
It ... my tear drop is sacred...
Love remains sacred.
Love unknown and untold is sacred.
Unknown Love is sad.
Unfound Love remains a search.
Unaware of Love sees the shadow of mystery.
Flesh is so sad!

Our Love remains
in the secret dreams of my tear drop.
When my tear drop awakes,
the world will be in a flood
upon its seeing no dreams beneath the
closed doors along narrow halls
yet miles apart -- the distance
between you and my tear drop.
You see it.
You do not feel it.
Dry with wetness,
sleeps my innocent tear drop.

Nirmala S. Singh.

Human rights and race relations

On March 12, 1980 the Race Relations Commissioner, Dr. Bhausaheb Ubale, chaired a meeting of more than fifty invited representatives of Christian and Jewish religious institutions. This consultation was intended as the first major initiative of the new Commissioner to deal with race relations issues in the Province of Ontario.

The purpose of the meeting was to mobilize the demonstrated experience and knowledge of prominent religious leaders and to seek their help in dealing with racism in Ontario. Participants came prepared to address their attention to how they might best develop practical action-oriented plans around the issue.

A number of concerns were raised by those attending the meeting, particularly that religious institutions must renew their active involvement in pressing for progress both within their own institutions and in society at large. Both long-range and immediate concerns were discussed, centring on the need to address the gap between the intention and performance of religious institutions in the area of racism. Participants urged that this issue be given a top priority by their colleagues, since religious institutions had let the issue lapse in recent years. Religious institutions themselves were criticized as urgently needing to examine their practices and the attitudes of their members.

Speaking at this meeting Dr. Ubale said: "Race Relations can be a baffling and frustrating subject sometimes creating bitterness among well meaning people, hence the usual temptation is to avoid the issue or pay cursory attention to it. By doing this we would be postponing today's problem for tomorrow. The presence of racism in our society affects each and everyone of us and each and every institution. Racial problems are political, economic and social problems, over and above they are also moral problems. Therefore the issue poses very special challenges to the Churches and to Church people, even as the issues of racism provides a context within which the mission and ministry of the Church can be fulfilled. Religious institutions as agents of social change can play a key role in promoting harmonious relations within our multi-racial society. I see my role as Race Relations Commissioner as one of facilitating and co-ordinating interests and activities within all sectors, in our mutual task of ensuring that the principle of equal opportunity and non-discrimination because of racial, religious or ethnic background becomes actualized.

I hope that by the end of the afternoon we will have generated many clear cut ideas on what Churches can do to further good race relations and reduce racist beliefs and practices in society and to encourage their own Church members to make an even greater examination of this problem through their study groups and social action committees. I believe the wisdom, skill, and commitment of those in attendance, and other like yourselves, will be the truly important factor in determining success in the important job we are undertaking together."

The group of more than fifty clergy and other religious leaders, called by Dr. Ubale to discuss strategies for overcoming racism, decided unanimously they must become a militant pressure group for change in their own parishes and in legislation.

The coalition for all major faiths, they have formed plans to meet early in April to decide on lobbying tactics.

Paintings of princely India

Ottawa, Canada: The first exhibition of gifts donated to the National Gallery of Canada in its Centennial year presents Indian miniature paintings given by Max Tanenbaum of Toronto. One exhibit from 4 April to 1 June 1980 are 40 examples acquired from the famous Alice and Nasli Heeramaneck Collection, representing a range of styles from the 16th through the 19th century.

While religious painting in India, mainly Buddhist, is known from the cave walls of monastic establishments as early as the 6th century, secular painting developed with the splendours of the Moghal court. In 1526 a descendant of the heroic Timur or Tamberlaine conquered North India. Six generations of Moghul emperors combined the elegance of Persian culture with the vigour of Indian creativity to develop a distinctive form of pictorial art.

Small in scale, being executed as manuscript illuminations, Moghul miniature painting shines in its brilliance of composition, drawing and colour. Islam did not permit its followers to image religious subjects, but the epics and lyric poetry of Moghul literature provided a rich variety of material in the worlds of man and nature.

Religious expression was permitted the Hindu rulers of small feudal courts in Rajasthan and the Punjab Himalayas, but their warrier-caste ethos often combined devotion to the gods with an equal devotion to the senses. The love of Krishna and Radha in all its moods and situations, waiting and longing, playing and joyful, are evoked in line and pigment. Just as Indian music, which many Rajput and Pahari paintings illustrate, displays an infinite variation upon them and rhythm, so do the movements of lords and ladies in marble pavilion and flowered gardens.

The painters who created these gem-like pictures are usually anonymous, but the styles and schools of painting under the patronage of emperors or rajas can be identified. In addition to the classical Moghul styles, examples of the Deccan, Mewar, Bundi-Kotah, Marwar and Malwa schools are shown.

The exhibition **Painting of Imperial and Princely India** is organized by Dr. Hsio-Yen Shih, Director of the National Gallery, and is accompanied by an explanatory brochure written by the Indian Islamic scholar, Dr. Elizabeth Merklinger.

Railways in the red

The Indian Railways, after some years of spinning profits, is back in the red, according to the interim railway budget announced the same day as the general one. A deficit of Rs 361.2 million is shown. The Rs 800-million surplus shown in last year's budget turned out to be a deficit of Rs 421 million instead.

However, no increase in passenger or freight fares has been proposed.

Some of the highlights in the budget are -- a proposed six per cent growth in traffic, productivity-linked bonus amounting to Rs 560 million for more than 1.6 million railmen, raising of goods traffic target by about 20.5 million tonnes, and introduction of a tri-weekly fast train between Chandigarh-Delhi-Ranchi and another between Puri and Delhi.

JESUS

O Thou, whose Love was more than Earth could bear,
More than angels dare - passing far
Beyond the orbit, for aye repassed the Bar
To home in His bosom for ever. Behold her there
His footstool immortal, elected heir
To the Ages, whilom Planet - now Star,
Plighted unfailing to Him above the far
Flung orbs on her unremitting Wake, tear
Along 'round Thy feet - restless Pilgrim of Eternity -
And her dirge, "I've sinned, O Lord!", trance-heard. He wot
Her banner of Mercy Nailed, her fence: when
On the Day, she stand silent suppliant for pity
'Fore the Throne, and wounds sealed, Thou plead-will not
The Father look to Thee and say - Amen?

K.V.A.

DEATHS

SANTHANAM

Madras, Mar. 28 (UNI) - Former union minister K. Santhanam died here following a massive heart attack. He was 85.

Sanathanam is survived by three sons and a daughter.

During a long and varied career, K. Sanathanam served as a member of the Constituent Assembly, was union minister and Lieutenant Governor and Headed an important committee dealing with corruption probes.

C.B GUPTA

New Delhi, Mar. 21 (UNI) - Chandra Bhanu Gupta, Janata Party treasurer and former chief minister of Uttar Pradesh, died at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences here. He was 79.

Mr. Gupta, a bachelor, died of heart and kidney failure.

DR. VIRENDRA SWARUP

Lucknow, Mar. 23(UNI) - Dr. Virendra Swarup, chairman of the Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Parishad (legislative council) died of a heart attack at his residence here. He was 57.

He is survived by his wife and three sons.

SIBIA

Chandigarh, Mar. 21 (UNI) - Former Punjab Irrigation and Power Minister Gurbux Singh Sibia died at the local Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGI) March 10. He was 58.

Mr. Sibia was ailing with kidney trouble for some time.

FILMS

The success of good cinema movement depends as much on distribution and exhibition as on production. The Film Finance Corporation's efforts to create a climate and clientele for healthy cinema were bogged down in the non-distribution of films funded by it and foreign films it had bought - most of them of non-commercial nature. Whatever FFC - financed films were released - like **Dastak, Phir Bhi** and **Garm Hawa** - were at the director-producer's own personal risk and not through the efforts of the FFC. At long last the FFC's plans to have a chain of art theatres in important cities is coming to fruition.

The first of such art theatres was inaugurated on February 21, 1980, at the Lotus cinema, Bombay. It will screen, on regular basis, FFC films for a period of three years, the lease period the FFC has made arrangements for. **Kasturi**, produced, directed and scripted by Bimal Dutt, which is about the superstitions and fears human beings entertain for offending gods and goddesses, will be the inaugural film. Within the next few months, the FFC plans to open similar art theatres in Delhi, Calcutta, Madras, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Kanpur, Lucknow and Jaipur. To give a concrete shape to its programme of construction of low-cost cinema houses in the country, the FFC has been able to obtain, with Government guarantee, an interest-free loan of Rs 2 crores.

The FFC's Delhi office, which started functioning in July 1979, at Plaza, is primarily looking after the expansion of distribution network in the North zone. The North India distribution work earlier was handled by the FFC headquarters in Bombay, through sub-distributors which did not prove successful. The sub-distributors were interested only in commercially viable foreign films. The Delhi office, headed by Mr. A K Narang, an energetic and dedicated man, has already made a good beginning. Within a few months of its opening, it has done business of over Rs 5 lakhs, in about 40 weeks of playing time, with 25 releases. It has widened its distribution network by adding new exhibition centres: Lucknow, Kanpur, Jhansi, Aligarh, Chandigarh, Simla, Ambala, Jullundur and Ludhiana.

For the time being, foreign imported films, subtitled or dubbed, are screened, but it has now taken up, in right earnest, screening programmes of Indian films, both financed by it and produced privately in the non-commercial sector. This will benefit those low-budget, purposeful films which had till now no theatrical facilities to get exhibited. Besides Delhi, the FFC has set up offices in Calcutta and Madras too, to look after the distribution arrangements in their respective regions. In another two months, it hopes to start art theatres in Madras (Kalaivanar theatre) and Calcutta (Shishir Manch). After the success of these distribution arrangements, on percentage basis, it has plans to go the whole hog in the non-commercial circuit - colleges, universities and educational institutions.

Subtitling facilities in India are woefully inadequate. Most of our films - out of 500 prints needing subtitling-had to be sent abroad which not only costs precious foreign exchange but delay in getting the prints back in time for festival screenings in India and abroad. The FFC is soon setting up a subtitling unit in Bombay which one hopes would be at par with international standards.

When all this comes about FFC would cease to be Flop Film Corporation, as some wag named the Film Finance Corporation.

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DO AUR DO PAANCH [Hindi]

Directed by Rakesh Kumar

Produced by C. Dhandayuthapani

It is a Devar Films' presentation, without animals featuring in it. Which is surprising. Sandow Chenappa Devar's love for animals was so great that he would always feature animals in his films and make them, compete with actors for acting honours, right from **Haathi Mere Saathi**. Rather he would select an animal - elephant, lion, cown, goat, tiger and even a reptile (snake) - spin a story around it, and come out with a sure-fire winner which would delight the adult and child alike. An animals' ballet, with children dressed as animals, in **Do Aur Do Paanch** is no compensation for the entertaining antics of live animals Devar used to feel proud of. His banner is being used but the animals discarded. Maybe, the unit of **Do Aur Do Paanch** lack Devar's love of animals and devotion and dedication to train them up and make them perform before the cameras.

It is a block-buster and Rakesh Kumar directs it with a light touch, but not as light as **Mr. Natwarlal** - which he claimed was made specially for children. **Do Aur Do Paanch** features a child around whom the whole story revolves: Son of a multi-millionaire, Bittu must be kidnapped for ransom by the richman's enemy who maintains a first-class den with torture chamber and a team of tough guys. The first attempt is foiled by a lady teacher who finding the child neglected suggests that a special school be opened for the kid's education. The second attempt is foiled by two jailbirds who have got themselves employed in the school as music teacher and drill master to kidnap the child for their own ends. While working on their kidnap plans separately and unworking the other's, the jailbirds win over a dame each, who instead of help become hindrance in their scheme of things. Events take such a turn that the jailbirds who had come to kidnap Bittu become his saviour. At the risk of their lives, they save him from the ugly designs of the master criminal.

Do Aur Do Paanch has too much of everything in it: violence, crash-and-smash scenes, twists and turns, romance and buffoonery, deception, and an unending animals' ballet which bores one in its length. The film, as it stands, is so unbalanced that if half an hour of it is edited out, its total impact would improve. Long sequences get to one's nerves.

Amitabh Bachchan and Shashi Kapoor have appeared in so many films together that their pairing chemistry does not elicit much of action and reaction. Among them they do comical things, mock fighting and motions in emotions. Of the two Amitabh Bachchan is better - in every aspect. Their lady-loves are a traditional school teacher (Hema Malini) and a school principal's mod daughter (Parveen Babi). Dr. Shreeram Lagoo and Kader Khan, two character-actors, play the millionaire and the sadistic gang leader, respectively. Dr. Shreeram Lagoo has an imposing screen presence, Kader Khan has a deep tonal voice that is much more effective than that of Amitabh Bachchan's. In cameo roles, Sajjan and TP Jain sail through with ease.

Music director Rajesh Roshan has yet to reach the mellifluous heights of **Julie**. Going by the film's 'score it should have been titled 'Do Aur Do Teen' instead of **Do Aur Do Paanch**. V. Ramamurthy's camerawork is applauseworthy. Anjaan's lyrics are quirky.

MAN KA AANGAN

Directed by I V Sasi

Produced by Hombuja Kala Niketan

I V Sasi has been called the B R Ishara of Malayalam cinema. With his first film **Chetna** ("Awakening") B R Ishara came on the film scene with a bang. Followed **Aanvorat, Man Tera Tan Mera, Ek Nazar** and many others. Exposure of society's hypocrisy and big wigs' moral duplicity became an obsession with him. Made as quickies, in one spell of shooting schedule, his films were not technically perfect. Direction-wise they were not any shake, yet subject-wise they were relevant and treatment-wise bold, both in dialogue and depiction of reality.

Ishara became an instant hit with filmgoers which obviously was not to the liking of established Bombay film-makers of big and medium-budget bonanzas. They raised a hue and cry that Ishara was spoiling the filmgoers' taste by exposure of flesh and fetish. The result: The Censor came down heavily on him and banned two of his films. In a way, his own contemporaries let him down. His back was broken and he went out of movies - though only for some time. Recently he has started writing for others, and occasionally directing.

Sasi became famous with his **Her Nights** (Malyalam), which like Ishara's **Chetna** was about a call girl, forced into the profession by circumstances. Both the films had one thing in common, besides the subject: they introduced new faces (Rehana Sultan in **Chetna** and Seema **Her Nights**] in the leading female roles. They won the hearts of millions by their uninhibited portrayals. They set new trends and standards for the leading ladies. **Man Ka Aangan** is a dubbed Hindi version of Sasi's Malyalam film which is said to have been a greater craze than **Her Nights** with Malyalam audiences. The reason is obvious: it has a few love-making scenes not seen on the Indian screen so far though by international standards they are puerile. The regional Censor in Madras has been liberal in that respect, some feel it is too liberal, that regional films get away with so much not allowed in Hindi films. Whatever the reason, **Man Ka Aangan** is high on emotion and high on motion, too

Like **Chetna and Her Nights, Man Ka Aangan** is a heroine-oriented film whose plot is a little complex but not as complex as the film-makers would have us believe. It has many ideas woven into it: non-fulfilment of a woman's inner urges; child love rekindling itself in adulthood; woman asserting herself when her dignity is challenged; man neglecting a woman after his desire to possess her is fulfilled; a richman equals love in terms of gifts and money. As the plot is located in a Kerala village, one finds certain primeval social customs still prevalent. A woman walks out on her husband and starts living with another man as wife without as much as divorce from her husband and without going through the ritual of remarriage, and is accepted by the second man's household.

In her search to seek happiness in domestic intimacy, the wife flits from one man to another without any compunction. Unable to bear the torment of his wife deserting him, the husband takes to the bottle and becomes a psychic case. The wife, living with another man, refuses to take notice of him. If he hangs himself by a tree it is the only logical step for him. Her childhood flame, the second man, turns out to be a philanderer which hurts her dignity. The third man is rich and he showers all the riches on her but her inner urges are not satisfied. She has become a plaything for man, partly owing to her own fault. Yet on her husband's funeral pyre, she rejects the other man.

An unusual film, for its central female character, for its tragic ending and for a few tantalizing love-scenes. It is as high on emotions as on the pleasure syndrome. All the characters give full vent to their emotions, the husband's quiet reactions are more eloquent than others' spoken ones.

The dialogues are spicy as one finds in Ishara's films, but Sharad Joshi has done a remarkable job in writing them in 'tozmarra' colloquial Hindi. The dubbing of course is not synch, perfect. Sasi uses like Ishara many objects for some symbolic effect: a pitcher in the pond, a water-pushing device, insects feeding on leaves, etc. Rajindra Jain's musical score is tolerable. One of the two lyrics speaks of the kids' frisking about hand-in-hand, but there is not a single shot of the kids in clasped hands to justify the words. The second lyric sums up the fate of a goodlooking woman who, in search of physical expectations, transfers her affection from man to man but the men turn out to be traders in bodies rather than fervent admirers.

Jaya Bharathi makes the best use of her figure. There is a certain womanly warmth about her, and her facial expressions record her inner torment and turmoil. Among the three men in her life, only Raghavan, as her husband, has a pleasing and charming personality. Madhu and Soman, the two top Malyalam actors, are too fat and double-chinned to make an impression. Reena, the stage artiste's sister, has an ideal screen presence. She is an actress to be watched. Kanak Durga as the fatty stage artiste just passes muster. Character-actress Adoor Bhavani as the middleaged mother is, as usual, her natural self.

Though very few Malyalam films have been made in Hindi, like **Thulabharam** as **Sanaj Ko Badal Dalo, Man Ka Aangan** is the first Malyalam film dubbed in Hindi. The film's success presages many more such dubbing ventures. This would go a long way in introducing regional films to Hindi audiences spread all over India. The film's more-than-expected box office returns in Calcutta and Bombay have encouraged the producers to dub their next film in Hindi too. A good beginning in cultural exchange through films.

Man Ka Aangan is a good introduction to Kerala's beautiful rural landscape, social customs and mores, so different from those of the Hindi region. Rich or poor, Keralites are always clad in **dhotis**, spotlessly white. Not like the rich men in rural North India - who are always trotting about in Western dresses.

Blind woman allowed to stay

Ottawa, March 20, 1980: Employment and Immigration Minister Lloyd Axworthy today announced that following consultation with the Alberta government he has decided to permit Miss Neelam Kohli to remain in Canada for an initial period of one year, subject to satisfactory permanent arrangements for her care being made by her family.

Mr. Axworthy stressed that his decision is based solely on the humanitarian and compassionate considerations in this case, and also on the fact that Alberta is prepared to co-operate since any ongoing medical or social welfare costs that might develop would be their responsibility.

"Despite the fact that Miss Kohli's family have broken written undertakings, I have decided to permit her to stay", Mr. Axworthy said. "However, I am issuing a warning to others who may attempt to bring inadmissible relatives to Canada on the premise that we have an obligation to accept them as immigrants. As Minister I must and will uphold the law and do not consider my decision in the Kholi case as setting a precedent. The onus is now squarely on the family to ensure she does not become a public charge."

The Minister indicated that he has instructed his officials to issue a Minister's Permit in Miss Kohli's favour for a period of one year. At the end of that period the case will be reviewed and a decision taken regarding her continued presence in Canada. "I regret that I cannot make a final decision at this time, "Mr. Axworthy said; "but given our previous experience in this case I have decided that it would not be appropriate to make such a decision until there is clear evidence that the family can and will accept full responsibility as promised. I would hope that Miss Kohli's family will take all necessary steps to assure that adequate arrangements are made for her continuing care at minimal public expense," Mr. Axworthy said.

Mr. Axworthy expressed strong appreciation at the willingness shown by Alberta authorities to co-operate in this matter.

BANKS WOOING MRS. GANDHI'S CONSTITUENCY

New Delhi (IBS) - Mrs. Indira Gandhi's constituency, Medak, will be flooded with bank offers and branches, if what the Reserve Bank says is correct.

RBI is said to have cleared over 30 licences to open new commercial banks in the area and this is perhaps the first time that so many clearances have been given within such a short time.

While assessing the viability of opening a bank branch the RBI usually prefers to deal with co-operative sectors. Meanwhile, banking industry circles are agog with speculation about likely changes at the top. Some of the chairmen of the banks might be asked to leave it is felt.

TRIPATHI IN HOSPITAL

New Delhi (IBS) - Railway Minister Kamalapathi Tripathi who was taken ill in the Lok Sabha, shortly before he could present the railway budget, is resting comfortably in hospital.

Tripathi, who was rushed to the Lohia Hospital from the Lok Sabha, was found to be responding to treatment, giving the doctors no cause for alarm.

COCA-COLA "SUCCESSOR" FOUND GUILTY

New Delhi (IBS) - The Delhi Bottling Company, which made hay while Coca-Cola (American) waned, has been found guilty of adulteration and fined Rs 10,000 by a metropolitan court here.

A case was filed in 1974 alleging large-scale adulteration of the company's soft drinks -- bottles containing an extraneous black substance. After years of litigation, the complaintant proved his case and the company was held guilty.

Punishment under the law should have been more severe, but the magistrate upheld the defence plea for deterrent punishment and a fine.

Property declaration date extended

The Government of India has simplified the procedure for the declaration of property held or acquired in India by non-resident Indians of Indian nationality/ origin. The procedure for the collection of rent from such property by the resident relations or friends of the non-residents has also been clarified.

Last Date for Declaration of Property

According to the simplified procedures, non-resident Indians and foreigners of Indian origin, who could not, due to inadvertence or other reasons, declare the immovable properties held by them as on April, 1974, are now required to file declarations under section 31(4) of the Act, latest by June 30, 1980. Similarly, persons of Indian origin who are nationals of a foreign State and could not due to various factors obtain the permission of the Reserve Bank of India to acquire the property as required under section 31(1) of the Act, are required to submit applications in respect of such properties as have been acquired not later than June 30, 1980. **The Application Forms can be obtained from Indian Investment Centre, 445 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.** The prescribed form is also available with any office of the Reserve Bank of India or a bank authorised to deal in foreign exchange in India. The declarations are to be made either to the nearest office of the RBI where the foreign national of Indian origin holds the property or to the Reserve Bank of India, Exchange Control Department, Foreign Companies Division, Central Office, Amar Building, Mint Road, Fort, Bombay 400 001.

Collection of Rent

Residents who are acting on behalf of non-residents for collection of rents on properties owned by non-residents, and accept such rents on behalf of non-residents contravene Section 9(1) (B) of the FERA. However, so long as the resident remits the amount to the non-resident ordinary account of the property owner with an authorised dealer within two months of receipt, contravention under section 9(1)(b) would be regarded as technical.

Deposit on Rent in Non-resident Account

A non-resident who receives rents from his property in India is required to credit the proceeds to his non-resident ordinary account maintained with an authorised dealer in foreign exchange. Such an account can also be opened as a joint account with a resident. If the resident is a first degree relative, i.e., son, brother, uncle, sister, aunt, nephew, niece, daughter, father, mother, mother-in-law and father-in-law of the non-resident, such joint accounts can be opened by the authorised dealers themselves. In other cases, where the resident account-holder is not a first degree relative, the opening of such an account requires prior approval of the RBI.

Operation of Non-resident Accounts

Operation of the joint account by the resident account-holder is allowed freely. The resident can also operate on a non-resident account provided he has obtained a power of attorney in his favour granted by the non-resident account-holder. Such operation by the power of attorney holder should be in terms of regulations laid down in the Exchange Control Manual.

Relaxation regarding Approval of Terms of Tenancy

Under the existing regulations, rent collected on properties may be credited to the non-resident account provided the first credit has been approved by the RBI and there is no change in the terms of tenancy. As this provision has also been causing hardship to the non-resident property owners, it has been decided that rentals on properties of any kind, held by a non-resident, may be credited freely and there is no need for the first credit or any change in ther terms of tenancy to be approved by the Reserve Bank of India.

India to launch satellites

New Delhi (IBS) -- India will launch at least two more satellites along with two Satellite Launch Vehicles (SLV) will be put into orbit by India.

According to the notes on demands for grants for the Department of Space, and indigenous SLV would be developed to launch a 40 kg load of scientific satellite called the Rohini, in a near earth orbit. The SLV is estimated to cost 80 million dollars and the satellite 12 million dollars.

Rising juvenile crime

New Delhi (IBS) - A child is not a criminal even if he has committed an act described under the law as a crime.

Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer of the Supreme Court offered this statement at a seminar on Juvenile delinquency control. He said that juvenile delinquency is an offshoot of adult delinquency.

About 30 experts and social scientists from all parts of the country are participating in the seminar. Statistics relating to juvenile crime present an alarming figure -- a rise from 2.5 per cent in 1977, to 2.8 per cent in 1979.

Out of 10,90887 cases of cognisable crime in 1976, there were 36,655 attributed to juvenile criminals. Justice Iyer called attention to the fact that growing vandalism amongst minors was creating a kind of bizarre monster mafia in the country.

Some major incidents of juvenile crime are auto-lifting, pickpocketing and shop lifting, usually a dire result of poverty in the country.

Today, some 24,000 children, including about 4,000 girls, are in 160 remand homes spread all over the country.

RAE BARELI SEAT VACANT

New Delhi (IBS) - Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has decided to retain the Medak Lok Sabha seat in South India and resign from Rae Bareli in North India.

Now minor offences no longer create major problems.

As of March 31st a new law makes it quicker and easier to deal with minor violations.

How is the law for minor offences simpler?

Until now, the Provincial Court has processed all offences from minor violations to serious crimes in virtually the same way. Justice was done, but it often took a lot of time.

On March 31, 1980, a new court system came into effect designed to make the procedures involving minor offences quicker and easier.

How does the new law work?

Now, if you're charged with a minor offence, you'll be given a simple form with three options clearly spelled out.

1. You may sign the guilty plea on the back of the form and forward it, along with the specified fine, to the court office.

2. You may sign the not guilty plea and forward it to the court, in which case you will be notified of the time and place of your trial.

3. You may plead guilty with an explanation. This is a new right, which you may use when you don't wish to dispute the charge itself, but wish instead to explain the circumstances. You can seek a reduction in the penalty or an extension of the time to pay the fine.

Drop in at the Provincial Offences court that's shown on your notice, or send someone to act as your agent. Office hours are also shown on your notice, and there is no need to make an appointment.

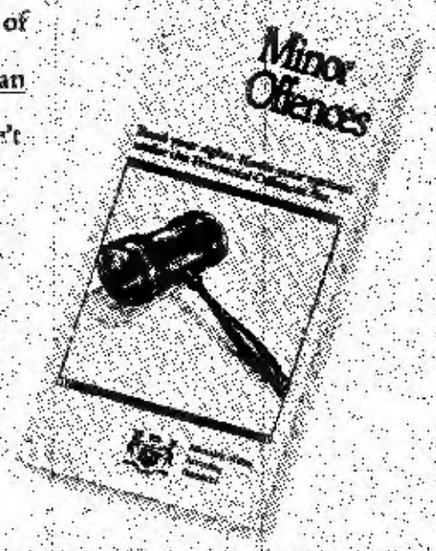
What's covered?

Almost all offences against provincial laws and regulations: highway violations such as speeding or failing to wear seat belts, or to maintain vehicle safety. Also, offences under such Ontario laws as the Liquor Licence Act, the Game and Fish Act, and the Motorized Snow Vehicles Act. In the future, the new system will also apply to parking violations.

What other responsibilities are mine?

If you fail to exercise one of the three options within 15 days, or if you ignore your offence notice, the court will assume that you do not wish to dispute the charge. The court may then charge a conviction against you and impose a fine. This fine is due 15 days after it is imposed, and the court has the power to collect unpaid fines. Upon conviction of a motoring offence, the court may suspend your driving licence until the fine is paid.

Now, if you'd like to find out more about the new law involving minor offences, pamphlets are available free at supermarkets and provincial court offices. Or write to: Provincial Offences Information, Queen's Park, Toronto.



R. Roy McMurtry, Attorney General

William Davis, Premier

Ontario

Ontario Multicu

School mate to be exami

Professor Jamshed Mavalwala, Chairman of the Advisory Council's Education Committee, is a member of a Ministry of Education Committee that has been preparing guidelines for authors and publishers to assist them to identify and avoid racial, religious and cultural bias and prejudice.

The Council's Education Committee has examined the Ministry Committee's working draft, "Towards Racial, Religious and Cultural Integrity in Ontario School Materials", with the request that they be brought to the attention of the Ministry of Education.

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2. The guidelines should stress

Multilingua

At the meeting of the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism the Education Committee presented a series of recommendations regarding multicultural services in Ontario's public libraries. The recommendations were approved as follows:

Because the multilingual services of the public libraries in Ontario have proved to be an excellent service to the public, and because the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism seeks

Hiring and

The members of the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism have been discussing the importance of having reflected in all levels of the Ontario civil service the differing racial and ethnocultural backgrounds of Ontario's citizens. The Council recognizes and commends the fact that people of all racial and ethnocultural backgrounds are employed in the civil service. The

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Saturday

Ontario Multiculturalism report

School materials to be examined

Professor Jamshed Mavalwala, Chairman of the Advisory Council's Education Committee, is a member of a Ministry of Education Committee that has been preparing guidelines for authors and publishers to assist them to identify and avoid racial, religious and cultural bias and prejudice.

The Council's Education Committee has examined the Ministry Committee's working draft, "Towards Racial, Religious and Cultural Integrity in Ontario School Materials", with the request that they be brought to the attention of the Ministry of Education.

1. There was unanimous consensus that such guidelines are definitely needed and also that no set of guidelines will be perfect. The Ministry is encouraged to carefully prepare and issue the first guidelines and be prepared to revise further editions of these guidelines based on responses received.

2. The guidelines should stress that we recognize that while bias and prejudice are a part of many situations described in textbook materials, our desire is not to whitewash the facts but to present the 'whole' truth. What should be clearly requested from authors is that they strive to present all aspects of an event or situation.

3. Such guidelines can easily be interpreted as protection for minority groups; however, the majority also needs protection from bias. The guidelines must clearly state that they are to help eliminate bias and prejudice in all aspects of society and seek fair representation for all peoples.

4. The Council recognizes that even with excellent materials, the teacher still plays a key role. The guidelines should stress that they do not advocate the removal of all unpleasant features but that the materials presented be used by the teacher for a full discussion in the classroom. Clearly, the teacher's role is critical and the guidelines should state where the role of even the best material stops and the analysis of the teacher takes over.

5. We urge that the guidelines specifically request authors to seek a balance when describing differences. In our Canadian school context, we urgently need to stress similarities as well as differences.

6. The Council believes that it would serve a useful purpose if authors were warned about the use of older reference materials and especially materials that are being quoted from texts which have been translated from another language into English.

7. It is important to remember that visual material can strongly influence our perception of one another. The guidelines should emphasize the need for care in determining choice and placement of visual materials.

Multilingual service

At the meeting of the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism the Education Committee presented a series of recommendations regarding multicultural services in Ontario's public libraries. The recommendations were approved as follows:

Because the multilingual services of the public libraries in Ontario have proved to be an excellent service to the public, and because the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism seeks to enhance the availability of the multilingual services to the public,

The Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism recommends that:

The Multicultural Development Branch of the Ministry of Culture and Recreation use its extensive contacts at the community level to assist the multilingual services to generate the proper publicity; and All institutions that train librarians to serve in Ontario be urged to include as an optional part of the training programme at least a half-course that deals with the library needs of a multicultural society;

and

Bodies such as the Ontario Educational Communications Authority, Multilingual Television, and The Multicultural Development Branch be requested to assist in an ongoing public relations effort.

Hiring and promotions

The members of the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism have been discussing the importance of having reflected in all levels of the Ontario civil service the differing racial and ethnocultural backgrounds of Ontario's citizens. The Council recognizes and commends the fact that people of all racial and ethnocultural backgrounds are employed in the civil service. The Council's concern is directed towards employment in the upper echelons of the civil service.

The Multiculturalism and Government Committee studied this issue and concluded that to hire and promote on the basis of ethnic background or to give that one item undue weight could cause: (a) reverse discrimination; (b) the placement of perhaps unqualified individuals; (c) negative public reaction, which would be more detrimental to the multicultural movement than beneficial. Furthermore, since multiculturalism is totally dependent upon understanding and respect for different cultures, multiculturalism can only survive and prosper if it is received in an atmosphere of free choice rather than compulsion.

Therefore, the Committee presented the following recommendation to the Council:

That Provincial Government ministries and agencies make a conscious and concerted effort to hire and promote those qualified individuals from racial and ethnocultural backgrounds reflecting the multicultural composition of the province.

The Honourable Margaret Birch responded to this

"Formal procedures established for hiring and promotion can only be fully effective if there is a genuine understanding and respect for different cultures.

Appointments to commissions

At the meeting of the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism the following recommendation was presented by the Multiculturalism and Government Committee and unanimously approved:

While merit must be the primary requisite in appointments made to all agencies, councils, advisory bodies and commissions established under the authority of the Province of Ontario, these appointments should, to the greatest extent possible, reflect the diversity of the population of the province and the mosaic of races, creeds and ethnocultural groups which make up its population.

In order to facilitate this goal, the Ontario Advisory Council on Multiculturalism recommends that forthcoming appointments be made known to as wide a spectrum of Ontario society as possible.

Response received indicated that appointments to the majority of agencies, boards and commissions are the prerogative of either the Premier or a member of Cabinet. Almost all new appointments are made known through press releases. Therefore persons who have reason to be interested are knowledgeable about individual agencies, boards and commissions. Anyone with such an interest or concern is, of course, quite welcome to submit nominations for membership on any body. A considerable effort is made to maintain lists of qualified persons from all parts of the province.

As there are a large number of agencies, boards and commissions, it would be very difficult to invite nominations as vacancies arise. However, the Government is as anxious as the Council is to see that appointments reflect, to the greatest extent possible, the diversity of the population of the province.

Many take citizenship

Of the 156,699 immigrants who took Canadian citizenship in 1979, there were 9484 (6.1 per cent) from India. Next to U.K (16.4 per cent) and Italy (6.2 per cent), India was the most important source country for potential citizens. Most of the Indian immigrants came during the period 1972 to 1978.

On an average the Indians took 5.4 years in Canada before becoming citizens less than the average for all countries - 6.3 years. The highest period was observed for Italy, 11.7 years and the lowest Kampuchea, Lebanon and Romania - less than 4 years.

National judges cadre?

New Delhi (IBS) - The proposal to create an all-India judicial service, considered but not implemented several times is again under consideration by the Union Government.

Article 312, as amended by the Constitution's 42nd Amendment Act, provides for the setting up of an all-India judicial service in consonance with the Law Commission report. But opposition from the states had hampered it due to opposition from the states.

The present all-India services are the Indian Administrative Service, the Indian Police Service and the Indian Forest Service and several other cadres. The All-India Services Act, 1961, will have to be amended to provide for a judicial service.

Awards in Banking

A Correspondent

Toronto: The Institute of Canadian Bankers has awarded a silver medal for academic achievement to Zaman Khan, Assistant Manager of Bank of Nova Scotia in Toronto. Among the ascending bankers who have been recognized are: Lachmi P. Singh of Scotia Bank in general management, K. Balakrishnan Nambiar of the Imperial Bank and Sudhakumar Banerjee of the Royal Bank in International Management.

Among the Fellows of the Institute of Canadian Bankers are: J.M. Ahmed, K. Doodnanth, M. Gupta, I. Ali, F.A. Khan, R. Butani, A.N. Ismail and F. Kanjooparamban.

Could the Indian community bank on these up and coming bankers in future?

A beggar's offering

Hyderabad, March 25 (UNI) - A ten-paise coin offered to Mother Teresa by a begger in Calcutta brought her greater joy than even the Nobel Prize.

In an informal chat with a select gathering at the Administrative Staff College of India here, Mother Teresa said the beggar approached her saying "Mother everyone is giving you something for destitutes but I have nothing to offer you. Will you please accept this ten paise"?

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PLO deal to protect oil supplies

New Delhi, Mar. 27 - India granted full diplomatic recognition to the Palestine Liberation Organization yesterday, another success in the PLO drive to gain recognition from oil-thirsty countries.

India buys about 2.9 billion gallons of oil a year from various Arab countries, including Kuwait, Iraq and Saudi Arabia. India has sought close ties with the Arab oil-exporting countries to maintain stable supplies.

Some say that India has sought close ties with the oil-rich Arab countries because it wants to minimize the Moslem world's support for neighboring Pakistan, a traditional military rival.

At the invitation of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, PLO leader Yasser Arafat will arrive tomorrow for a two-day visit. External Affairs Minister P.V.N. Rao made the announcement in Parliament, and members cheered it.

"Over the years, not only by words but also by deeds, the people of India have demonstrated their sympathy, affection and brotherly feelings for the Palestinian people," Rao said.

He said the PLO representative office in New Delhi, established in 1975, will be accorded "full diplomatic status." A government spokesman said the office would be considered an embassy-level mission.

"India has all along supported the Palestinian cause in the United Nations...granting full diplomatic status to the PLO, therefore, is but another logical step, Mr. Rao added." He repeated india's position that there can be no lasting settlement to the Middle East crisis without the PLO's participation in peace negotiations.

The Indian Government recognizes Israel but does not have full diplomatic relations with Tel Aviv. However, it has permitted Israel to maintain a consulate in Bombay. There is no official Indian representation in Isreal.

Within the past month, France, Britain and West Germany have recognized the right of the Palestinians to self-determination. French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing said the PLO should participate in Middle East peace talks.

(AP)

India's new island

Calcutta, Mar. 31 (UNI) - India has extended its sovereignty over an island in the Bay of Bengal off the Sunderbans coast.

Named 'Purbasha", the two square kilometre island is the tip of an emerging land mass, about 26 km wide and 11 km long.

District magistrate of 24 Parganes Indrajit Chowdhury, district police superintendent, Amiya Samanta and a group of state forest department officials sailed 120 km from Canning to the island to hoist the tricolour late last week.

MGR's new film

Madras, Mar. 31 (UNI) - The former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M G Ramachandran has announced that his new Tamil film entitled "Ethuthan en oathil" (This is my reply) would be released before April 30.

Despite his preoccupation with preparations for the coming assembly elections, he would find time to make a "quickie", he told newsmen here.

1,000 in Pak torture centre

New Delhi (IBS) - Some 1,000 people belonging to Pakistan and the Pakistani-occupied areas of Kashmir, including some army personnel who recently defected from the Pak army, are being tortured in an interrogation cell near Muzafarbad – the capital of Pakistani-occupied Kashmir, according to an Indian who escaped from custody, Mangat Ram, who belongs to the Poonch area, had been kidnapped by army personnel from Pakistan in 1971, during the Indo-Pakistan conflict and spent nine years in an interrogation cell until his recent escape. He claimed that there were 900 underground torture chambers where inhuman methods of interrogation were being conducted.

Coming Events

Canasian Forum

Michael Cassidey, leader of ONTARIO NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY is to address a luncheon meeting of the Can-Asian Forum on April 16th at the Talisman. For further information call 225-0250 or 745-9622.

Attention doctors!!

Serious investors!!

Want to invest in California real-estate?

We are a group of Indian investors in southern California investing primarily in real-estate - COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES, HOUSING, HOTELS & MOTELS. Some of our real-estate investments have appreciated a 100 per cent in the last two years. Right now we are in the process of acquiring a lot of very attractive properties. If you are seriously interested in investing $50,000 or more AS EQUAL PARTNERS with us in any of our investments and want to see your money grow at a fantastic rate, please write PATCO INVESTMENTS, 1126 W. Katella Avenue, Anaheim, California 92802. Or call Pat (714)533-8916 or Sawhney (213)626-5716. All your investments can be evaluated by your financial/legal experts and you are most welcome to visit us in Los Angeles to see our real-estate acquisitions yourself.

Loan agreement

New Delhi, Mar. 31 (UNI) - The Governments of Canada and India have signed a Development Assistance Loan Agreement for 25 million Canadian dollars.

The agreement was signed by the Canadian High Commissioner to India, J.G. Hadwen, and the Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh.

The loan will be used exclusively for agricultural refinancing through the Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation (ARDC).

The money will help support India's programme for financing agricultural development, particularly minor irrigation, land development, soil conservation, land reclamation and diversified agricultural activities such as animal husbandry, forestry, inland fisheries, marine fisheries, gobar gas plants and agro-service centres.

Edmund joins DMK

Madras, Mar. 21 (UNI) - G.R. Edmund, food minister in the erstwhile All India Anna DMK ministry has joined the DMK.

Mr. Edmunds is the third minister in the M.G. Ramachandran cabinet to quit the party and join the DMK, the others are K. Mancharan and Mrs. Subbulakshmi Jagadisan.

Mr. Edmund said he had decided to quit the AIADMK because it had taken a negative attitude on unification of Dravidian parties.

Mr. Edmund alleged that he and other former cabinet colleagues were treated as mere clerks by former chief minister M.G. Ramachandran.

He said Mr. Ramachandran had never consulted his colleagues nor respected their views at any time.

He expected some more former ministers to join the DMK.

New light on Tamil history

Madras, Mar. 31 (UNI) - Preliminary excavations by the State Archaeological Department at three different sites have yielded finds which could throw light on ancient and medieval Tamil history.

The sites are at Gangaikondacholapuram in Tiruchirapalli district, Poluvanpatti in Coimbatore district and Kovalanpottal on the outskirts of Madurai city.

Excavations at the first site began six weeks ago and revealed a brick structure which may be part of an old palace and pottery items some of which may be of foreign origin. Terracotta pieces and a seal have been found at Poluvanpatti and some neolithic stone implements and a square coin presumed to be of the early Christian era have been unearthed at Kovalanpottal where excavations started only a fortnight ago.

NEW BUSINESS

A new travel agency, **CENTRUM TRAVEL** has been opened in Ottawa

BORN TO:

Rev. & Mrs. Thomas Varughese of Toronto a son.

Dr & Mrs. Paul Varughese of Aylmer, Quebec a duaghter.

INDO-CANADIAN COMMUNITY CENTRE (ICCC)

PAST: Yes, some members of our community did talk a lot about a Centre of our own for a while and there had been set-backs. Finally something was done about it in 1973 by establishing ICA-Charitable Trust (the predecessor of ICCC)

- to construct, maintain and equip a community centre
- to teach Indian languages, drama, dance, music, philosophy, etc.
- to establish, promote and carry on sports activities of every nature and
- to carry on charitable and philanthropic work.

Since its inception it has taken on several projects of its own and also participated in other community activities. Mentioned below are a few

- In 1977 ICCC, with the active cooperation of other organisations in Ottawa, sent $24,000 for flood relief and rehabilitation work in India and in 1978 $3,000 was collected for the same purpose. In 1979 it was Morvi Relief Fund and project 4000.
- ICCC has been responsible for organising a hockey team for boys 9-13 and is a co-sponsor of field hockey activities in the area.
- It held Indian classical dances and modern ballroom dance classes.
- A donation of $500 worth of books has been made to Nepean Public Library.
- Along with all these activities work for establishing a community centre has been progressing steadily. ICCC owns 53 acres of land at the outskirts of Ottawa.

PRESENT:

As was reported in these columns earlier, a very active fund raising campaign has been going on since October 1979 for bringing a building at the corner of Bank St and Riverside Dr. We have come a long way - so far 130,000 has been raised. We are pretty sure that with the enthusiastic support shown by many of the members of our community the balance of 30,000 can easily be raised.

WE HAVE ONLY 4 WEEKS TO GO.

We appeal to each and every member of our community to contribute your share for this project.

Please write your cheque before you forget, to Indo-Canadian Community Centre and mail to 2060 Chalmers Rd. Ottawa, K1H 6K5.

Your donation is tax deductible and a receipt will be sent to you.

A donation of $600.00 entitles you to a life membership in the organization.

This is the time for cooperation, participation, and positive action.

A letter ICCC received recently from the Indo-Canadian Association of P.E.I. (printed below) gave us a lot of encouragement.

"We came to know of your request for donation to Indo-Canadian community centre from the CANADIAN INDIA TIMES. We have a very small community here and so is the membership of our Association. However, we felt that a Community Centre in Ottawa is a very worthwhile cause. Therefore, on behalf of the Indo-Canadian Association of P.E.I., I am enclosing a cheque of $50.00 as our support.

We would certainly like to keep in touch with the community in Ottawa and would like to receive the news letter, if you have any or notices of any special events or movies etc. so that any of our members who happen to be visiting Ottawa can take that opportunity to participate.

With our best wishes for the success of the Community Centre."

M.P. Madan,
President.
INDO-CANADIAN ASSOC.
CHARLOTTETOWN PEI.

FUTURE:

The number of activities that can be organised centering around our **CENTRE** are numerous. We invite you to participate.

- **It is your organisation.**
- **It will be as strong as you make it.**
- **What it does for you depends on what you do for it.**

KITCHEN

By Pranati Sen

With the arrival of spring, w
appears. This unusual acidic p
summer drink.

Chutney No. 1

1 lb. rhubarb, cut into small p
1 lb. cooking apples, peeled a
1 med. onion, finely chopped
1 small clove of garlic, minced
½ cup raisins
¾ cup cider vinegar
1 inch fresh ginger, finely cho
½ tsp. ground clove
½ tsp. salt, ¼ tsp. ground cin
2 to 2¼ cups sugar
4 tbsp. warm water
2 tbsp. oil
2 whole red dried chillies

Combine all the ingredients e
Bring to a boil. Turn down hea
hour, or until thick. Stir ofte
small frying pan and fry chilli
chillies over chutney. Mix the

Chutney No. 2

3 cups rhubarb, ½ inch pieces
⅛ cup water
½ cup sugar or to taste
1½ tbsp. mustard paste (fres
1 tbsp. oil and a pinch of mus
2 tsp. cornstarch
little salt

Combine rhubarb, sugar and
simmer until tender; about 15
pop up. Mix in rhubarb sau
cornstarch with little water unt
mixture. Stir over low heat unt
Chill and serve.

Rhubarb Cocktail

3 cups cold water
¾ cup white sugar
¼ tsp. cream of tartar
6 cups diced rhubarb
1 (3 inch) cinnamon stick
1 tbsp. orange rind, grated
1 tsp. grated lemon rind
2 tbsp. lemon juice
½ cup orange juice

Cook rhubarb in 2 cups of w
orange and lemon rind. Bring
Simmer 8 minutes - strain thr

Syrup: 1 cup of water, sugar
Boil together for 5 minutes. Co
together. Pour into sterilized

Before serving add an equal q

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KITCHEN KORNER

By Pranati SenGupta

With the arrival of spring, warm rain and bright sun, Rhubarb appears. This unusual acidic plant is very good for chutney and for summer drink.

Chutney No. 1

1 lb. rhubarb, cut into small pieces
1 lb. cooking apples, peeled and diced
1 med. onion, finely chopped
1 small clove of garlic, minced
½ cup raisins
¼ cup cider vinegar
1 inch fresh ginger, finely chopped
½ tsp. ground clove
½ tsp. salt, ½ tsp. ground cinnamon
2 to 2¼ cups sugar
4 tbsp. warm water
2 tbsp. oil
2 whole red dried chillies

Combine all the ingredients except oil and chillies in a saucepan. Bring to a boil. Turn down heat and simmer, uncovered, for about 1 hour, or until thick. Stir often with wooden spoon. Heat oil in a small frying pan and fry chillies just for seconds and pour oil and chillies over chutney. Mix thoroughly. Chill before serving.

Chutney No. 2

3 cups rhubarb, ½ inch pieces (about ¾ lb. trimmed)
¼ cup water
½ cup sugar or to taste
1½ tbsp. mustard paste (freshly ground is best)
1 tbsp. oil and a pinch of mustard seeds
2 tsp. cornstarch
little salt

Combine rhubarb, sugar and water in a pan. Bring to boil and simmer until tender, about 15 minutes. Heat oil and fry seeds until pop up. Mix in rhubarb sauce and stir in mustard paste. Mix cornstarch with little water until smooth paste. Gradually add to the mixture. Stir over low heat until thickened. Add salt to your taste. Chill and serve.

Rhubarb Cocktail

3 cups cold water
¾ cup white sugar
⅛ tsp. cream of tartar
5 cups diced rhubarb
1 (3 inch) cinnamon stick
1 tbsp. orange rind, grated
1 tsp. grated lemon rind
2 tbsp. lemon juice
½ cup orange juice

Cook rhubarb in 2 cups of water. Add cinnamon stick grated, orange and lemon rind. Bring to a boil and reduce heat to simmer. Simmer 8 minutes - strain through cheesecloth.

Syrup: 1 cup of water, sugar and cream of tartar into saucepan. Boil together for 5 minutes. Cool. Add cooled syrup and fruit juices together. Pour into sterilized jar and store in the refrigerator.

Before serving add an equal quantity of chilled ginger ale.

Cassettes from library

Mississauga Library System has audio-cassettes which can be borrowed free of charge in much the same way as books. Either collection cassettes from Central Library, 110 Dundas St. West, Mississauga, or order them through any branch library. You can keep the cassettes for three weeks.

Recent additions to the collection include: Pushpanjali with Hari Om Sharan; Live in Canada with Jagjit Singh.

Selected to team

Rakesh, Kapila, grade eleven student of Greenall High School, Balgonie (Sask.) has been awarded a Badminton Training assistance grant of $600 by the Saskatchewan Badminton Association.

Rakesh has also been selected to be on Saskatchewan's Junior Badminton Team for 1980. This team will represent Saskatchewan in the Canadian Pepsi Cola Junior and Juvenile Championships

FREE FOR NEW IMMIGRANTS

In order to help the recent immigrants to settle down with minimum discomfort, The Canadian India Times has decided to send the paper free for three months to all landed immigrants who have stayed in Canada or USA FOR ONLY LESS THAN TWO MONTHS.

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Big leap by top 10 companies

New Delhi (IBS) - The top 100 companies in the private sector made an overall profit of 717.8 million dollars and their total assets touched the figure of 7,900 million dollars, while sales worth 9,818 million dollars was achieved for the year 1977-78. The top 100 companies in the year previous to this had earned a total profit of 512.8 million dollars, sold goods worth 8,222 million dollars, while their total assets were billed at 6,578 million dollars.

Of the 100 companies, 83 made profits over the 1977-78 period, with the per company average working out to 7.5 million dollars against the previous years' 5.5 million dollars.

In terms of profit made over the last year, the turnover was better than the 1976-77 period, however, 17 companies also registered losses this time against 12 the year before.

The study conducted here recently, showed that the performance of the companies was good, in respect to their paid-up capital, affiliation to large business houses, profitability ratio assets, compliance with the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade practices Act and connection with multinational corporations.

Ninety-one companies out of the 100 were registered with the MRTP, and 75 of these managed to assimilate assets worth 50 million dollars or more.

While the Birlas led the list of companies in this bracket, the Tatas with concentrated assets worth 900 million dollars, against the Birla's 782 million topped the lists. Mafatlal, with 313.59 million, JK Industries with 219.92 million, ICI with 159.21 million, ACC with 190 million, Thapas with 220.89 million, Oil India with 167.75 million and Khatau with 98.02 million made up some of the others.

Rajya Sabha members join Congress(I)

New Delhi, Mar. 31 (UNI) - Three Rajya Sabha members have joined the Congress-I.

They were: N P C Naidu, former General Secretary of the Janata Party, Govinda Reddy (Congress-U) and Scato Swu (nominated).

With this, the strength of the Congress-I in the house of 244 went up to 92. There are 12 vacancies.

Mr. Naidu resigned as General Secretary of the Janata Party after Mr. Jagjivan Ram's resignation from the Janata Parliamentary Party.

Birla tops

New Delhi, Mar. 22 (UNI) - The Birlas topped the industrial world in total turnover and profits during 1978, with Rs 13,740 million and Rs 988.10 million respectively.

According to figures furnished by Law Minister Shiv Shankar in the Lok Sabha and Tates came next with Rs 13676 million in turnover and Rs 512.40 million in profits.

In 1977, the Birlas were worth Rs 10702 million and profits Rs 898.90 million. The Tatas' assets were valued at Rs 10692.80 million and profits Rs 652.80 million.

CAMBODIANS ARE INDIANS

Modern Cambodia was settled in the first four centuries A.D. by migrants from India. The Indians inter-married with the indigenous people who were of southern Mongolian stock from Yunnan and eastern Tibet. The resulting mixed race is known as Khmer.

Executives may buy jets

New Delhi, Mar. 28 (UNI) - The Government is reconsidering a proposal to permit business houses to acquire executive aircraft.

According to official sources, half a dozen proposals had been rejected by the former Industry Minister, Mr. George Fernandes, last year on the ground that the business men allowed politicians to use planes for election purposes.

The matter was being reopened now on the plea that they needed a means of quick transport to move from the company headquarters to mills in distant parts of the country.

Rs. 2 billion deficit in states

New Delhi, Mar. 31 (UNI) - Eight of the ten states now under President's rule are financially in the red, according to their interim budgets for 1980-81 presented to Parliament.

The total deficit of these states is Rs 2276.9 million.

The states are: Assam (Rs 178.9 million); Bihar (Rs 154.3 million); Madhya Pradesh (Rs 154.6 million); Uttar Pradesh (Rs 932.1 million); Rajasthan (Rs 340 million); Punjab (Rs 239.1 million); Gujarat (Rs 274.7 million); and Tamil Nadu (Rs 230 million).

Of the two other states under President's rule Maharashtra had a surplus of Rs 630.4 million while Orissa's budget was balanced.

Decline of the rupee

New Delhi, Mar 22 (UNI) - The value of the rupee in terms of the All India Industrial Workers Consumer Price Index declined to 26.95 paise in January this year.

The All India Industrial Workers Consumer Price Index (1960-100) was 371 in January against 360 in August last year.

The value of the rupee declined from 27.78 paise in August last year to 26.95 paise in January.

RUPEE UPVALUED AGAINST POUND

Bombay, Mar. 22 (UNI) - The rupee, in terms of the pound sterling stands upvalued by 0.55 per cent following the revision by the Reserve Bank of India of rates for buying and selling pound sterling currency for the spot delivery.

The RBI has fixed middle rate of Rs 18.05 a pound as against Rs 18.15 hitherto.

Riots in Gujarat

Ahmedabad, Mar. 31 (UNI) - The indefinite curfew, clamped down on Sidhpur town in Mehsana district in North Gujarat following clashes between two groups, was lifted today, according to the state police headquarters here.

Police had burst about 15 teargas shells yesterday to control two clashing groups which had also indulged in arson. A jeep was set ablaze and about 60 persons, including five policemen, were injured in the stone throwing by the clashing groups.

Police reinforcements from Ahmedabad and Mehsana have been rushed to the troubled town.

Several persons have been arrested but the exact figure was still not available.

Cultural education

New Delhi (IBS) - What does the average Indian know about his own culture? Almost nothing - that is the expert opinion.

To rectify this, the Indian Council for Cultural Relations at the instance of the External Affairs Ministry, has launched a one-week course on Indian Culture for all Indians going abroad. The course, advertised through newspapers, in Hindi and English, is open to those who can understand the second language for the lectures are all conducted in that media.

The course will consist of lectures on Indian economy, politics, foreign policy, dance and music.

No tax on Nobel Prize

New Delhi (IBS) - Future winners of awards for outstanding work in the alleviation of the poor, the weak and the ailing, need not worry according to Finance Minister R. Venkataraman's budget plan.

These individuals, including Mother Teresa, who worked with her sister of charity, would be exempt from paying income tax or gift tax on awards for literacy, scientific and artistic work or attainment instituted by the Central or State Government.

Frontier Gandhi invited

New Delhi (IBS) - External Affairs Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao told the Lok Sabha recently that the government had told Badshah Khan, popularly called the frontier Gandhi, that he was welcome in India whenever he chose to seek medical treatment.

Badshah Khan, who had been offered the same facilities in the past, is yet to indicate as to whether he would be able to accept India's offer this time.

Satpathy to Congress(U)

New Delhi, Mar. 20 (UNI) - Mrs. Nandini Satpathy, former Orissa Chief Minister has joined the Congress(U).

Mrs. Satpathy, who quit the Congress party along with Jagjivan Ram on the eve of elections in 1977 to form the CFD told newsmen here that after her discussions with Congress-U President Devaraj Urs and others she was convinced that this party could play an important role in the present political situation.

CLASSIFIEDS

Matrimonials

31 year old professional, Gujarati, lived past 15 yrs in England and Canada. Amicably separated from English lady. No children, would like to meet fairly liberal minded lady of Indian origin with view to marriage. Interested party, please contact with photo to M-1682. The Canadian India Times.

Wanted an immigrant/citizen match for a Jat Sikh handsome boy, 28, height 5'-11", doing doctrate in chemistry. Caste no bar. M-1683, The Canadian India Times.

Suitable match for a 21 year old Jain girl height 5'-6" - fair - 120 lbs. Canadian citizen - college graduate, only professionals between 22 to 25 years please apply. M-1684, The Canadian India Times.

Suitable match wanted for a well settled, educated Punjabi bachelor, 40, Canadian citizen. Girl should be fair and slim. Caste no bar. Early marriage. Reply with details and returnable photograph. M-1685, The Canadian India Times.

Indian girl, 40, 5'-6" settled in Canada, desires to marry, faithful, loyal, soft spoken, handsome, well settled gentleman, divorcee not wanted. M-1686, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a suitable match for a Bengali groom studying in Canada for Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering. Contact with a returnable photograph as soon as possible. Resident of Canada or U.S.A. preferred. M-1687, The Canadian India Times.

Punjabi boy, 31, well qualified and settled in Canada invites correspondence from pretty and educated girls. Photo must. Reply M-1688, The Canadian India Times.

Request matrimonial proposal for a 5'-7" handsome professional Hindu boy in early thirties, well settled in Ontario. Would like a talented tall and beautiful girl below thirty. Please reply with girl's particulars, family and picture for an early marriage. M-1689, The Canadian India Times.

Parsi boy, marriage-minded, has decent education, good manners and morals, hard-working and disciplined, interested in meeting a marriage-minded Parsi or non-Parsi girl in 20-30 age group. M-1690, The Canadian India Times.

Looking for immigrant/citizen match for my sister, 26, Punjabi Brahmin, M.A., good looking. Family settled in Canada. Please contact Mr. Sharma - 416-493-8636, or write 20 Chichester Place Apt 214, Agincourt, M1T 1G6.

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Wanted suitable beautiful slim Kayestha bride for Saxena handsome bachelor, 26, American graduated licensed pharmacist (313) 522-1756.

Wanted, match for beautiful convent educated girl, 29, visiting sister. Contact: Kumar, 2100 Keele St. Apt #401, Toronto, Ontario, M6M 3Z1, Tel: (416)-244-1612.

Suitable match preferably in Canada for an innocently divorced Rajput girl, 25, sweet, homely, attractive. M.A: Economics working in States. Caste no bar. Write M-1598, The Canadian India Times.

Matrimonial correspondence invited for a tall handsome Sikh boy, 27, final year engineering student in Canada. Caste no bar. Write M-1668, The Canadian India Times.

Established, multispecialty M.D., 33 yrs, 5'-7½", handsome bachelor North Indian Rajput fair complexioned excellent health, warm, outgoing east and west cultured wide interest seeks life partner with high personal and social standards. Musical and artistic taste preferred. Early marriage. Full details recent returnable photo must please. No divorcees or widows. M-1678, The Canadian India Times.

Matrimonial correspondence invited from attractive and intellectual girls about 25-30, single or divorced in Canada, U.S. or India for a Canadian, 32, single, attractive, idealistic, educated Jat Sikh boy, caste no bar. M-1679, The Canadian India Times.

Matrimonial correspondence invited from a Nair family, settled in North America for a Nair boy, 29, from Kerala, presently employed as a doctor in Canada. Please write to M-1681, The Canadian India Times.

Parents, brother, sister and other close relatives settled in Canada and USA seek suitable well qualified, well behaved, slim and beautiful not more than 22 years match preferably settled in Canada or USA for a handsome, most qualified, non drinker, non-smoker, 5', 26 years old Professional Electronics production Engineer, diploma in Business management as well as French belonging to respectable, multi-million-aire vegetarian and most educated agarwal family of New Delhi. Please send details along with latest photograph to Agarwala Box No 3491, Smithers, B.C.

Smuggler gets 3 yrs

Junagad, Mar. 31 (UNI) - Alleged kingpin of smugglers Sukhar Naran Bakhiya of Daman has been sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs 5,000 by the chief judicial magistrate here for violation of the Customs and Gold Control Act.

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